

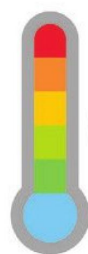


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to choosing the right NHS service if you become ill or are injured this winter.

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Ear pain.
Stomach ache.
Back ache.**

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advice, examinations, and prescriptions.

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– if you need this service telephone
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**Diarrhoea.
Runny nose.
Painful cough.
Headache.**

Pharmacist

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Issue No 111

Available from Wednesday,
October 28, 2009

THE NEWSPAPER FOR ASHFORD, TENTERDEN AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES



FIVE SUSPENDED AT IMMIGRANT HOME

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

yourkenttv.co.uk



TRUE GRIT: Find out how Kent Highways Service prepare for winter. Search 'winter'

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ISSN 1753-117-9



Picture MIKE GUNNILL



KCC has declined to comment on speculation that five Millbank Centre staff have been suspended after allegations of inappropriate behaviour towards young asylum seekers appeared in the national press

■ BY ED HILL

THE county council has refused to comment on claims that five staff have been suspended from Ashford's Millbank Centre after allegations of "inappropriate behaviour".

The KCC-run centre houses up to 50 young asylum-seekers, aged 16-18, who have entered the country at Dover without parents.

The youngsters, many of them from Iraq and Afghanistan, can spend up to three months at Millbank while their cases are assessed.

According to a report in a national newspaper, five people were suspended in June after a whistleblower claimed staff had cuddled and touched the youngsters, and even took them home on occasion.

The allegations emerged after a text message was sent to one of the residents at the centre by a member of staff, asking to meet them outside.

Because his English was not good enough to read the message, he asked someone to translate for him.

A source at the centre told the Sunday Express: "If the lad who got it had spoken better English nobody would be any the wiser, but she wanted him to meet her outside the centre to take him home."

The five staff involved in the allegations deny they did anything wrong and none of the young people involved is still at the centre. Last year Millbank was also in the news after a report by the Children's Society criticised its

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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3 Get all the latest team news with Gills boss Mark Stimson on Yourkenttv.co.uk. **Search 'Gills'**

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Photos mark 35 years of support

■ BY ED HILL

A SERIES of photographs, have provided a glimpse into Porchlight's past, as the homeless charity marks its 35th anniversary.

The pictures show some of the people the charity, which runs Simon Meade House in Ashford, has helped since it began.

The photos date back to 1974, when Porchlight, originally Canterbury Cyrenians, was started by Tom Gifford, who had experienced homelessness himself.

The Cyrenian movement encouraged communities to help homeless people in their area. The charity decided to change its name last year, as it now operates across the county.

Mark Parry, a spokesman for the charity, said: "The photographs were found in an old photo album with no labels so we don't know who they are, or who took them."

Anyone who can shed any light on the identities of the characters captured on film, or who knows who took the pictures, can get in touch with Porchlight through Yourashford.

Simon Meade House was opened in 1999, providing a temporary home for 11 people. They can stay there for



up to six months while their case is being dealt with.

The charity can support about 500 people across Kent at any one time. Last year it helped more than 1,600 homeless people.

Chief executive Mike Barrett said: "It was thought by government, society and many charities that a roof over someone's head was the solution to the homelessness problem."

"This is not the case and for some time now we have been able to focus on and tackle the complex issues faced by single homeless people."

To see the photos go to www.porchlight.org.uk/35years

The Porchlight free helpline number is 0800 567 7699.

Claims over KCC asylum centre

FROM FRONT PAGE

involvement in a scheme designed to return asylum families to their country of origin.

The UK Border Agency ended the £1 million pilot scheme, run in conjunction with the charity Migrant Helpline, after just one family volunteered to leave the country.

The project was an attempt to avoid young children of asylum-seeking families having to spend time in detention centres by giving them access to support and education at local schools.

KCC would not confirm or deny the allegations, but an official said: "It is inappropriate for Kent County Council to publicly discuss any unproven allegations."

"KCC takes seriously its duty towards, and operates to promote the best interests of, all children and young people in its care."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Task teams help crime figures fall

THE latest crime statistics for the Ashford policing area of South Kent show that crime has fallen by more than 11 per cent.

The figures released on Thursday were for the period from April to June 2009, compared with the same period last year.

They show that criminal damage was down by nearly a quarter, sexual offences were down by 22.6 per cent, burglary of people's homes was down by 20 per cent and violence against the person was down by 11 per cent.

However drug offences were up by 17 per cent, but police put this down to a crackdown on drug cultivation factories such as cannabis farms.

Superintendent Mark Nottage said: "The South Kent Area has a strong tradition of crime reduction and these latest figures show all of my officers are working hard to make sure it remains a safe place."

"The introduction of Neighbourhood Task Teams in all three policing districts has made a real difference."

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Your big chance to ask that burning question

■ BY ED HILL

DO YOU have questions you want answered?

After criticism that last year's State of the Borough Debate lacked public involvement, this time Ashford council is aiming to throw the floor open, prioritising public question time so everyone can have their say.

So, if you have a burning issue you think the council should address, go along and have it debated in the council chamber on Thursday, November 26.

To get the ball rolling, Yourashford decided to ask local people what questions they would like to put to the council executive.

Jack Cowan, who has campaigned for a theatre for the town, brought up the work being carried out at St Mary's Church.

He asked: "I would ask how they can be so free with taxpayers' money to hand it over to the Church of England to redevelop the inside of the church, on the grounds of making it a cultural centre. There seemed to be no consultation with local people."

Pam Millington, of Moat Housing, who has been involved in the regeneration of the Stanhope estate, asked: "Following the success of the Stanhope public-funded initiative, is Ashford council planning to initiate similar projects in future?"

Environmental concerns were also on the agenda. Sean Fury from Protect Kent, based in Smeth, wanted to know about the future of the River Stour.



HAVE YOUR SAY: Leader Paul Clokie, pictured, and fellow councillors will take questions from the public at the debate

He asked: "I would like to know how the implementation of the Water Cycle Strategy is going. Is the council following all the recommendations or just cherry-picking the easy bits?"

A spokesman for Tenterden Residents' Association said local people had raised questions about the 475 houses proposed for the town, and about traffic problems in the area.

If you have a question, post it online at

www.ashford.gov.uk/stateoftheboroughdebate.

Forms are also available at the council offices in Tannery Lane and Tenterden Gateway.

The meeting starts at 7pm on November 26, at the Civic Centre.

Written questions should be submitted by noon on Wednesday, November 18, although the executive and senior managers will also answer follow-up questions from the floor on the night.

Doorstep delivery storage rejected

AN INTERNET alcohol delivery business which aimed to use a garage on Park Farm estate in Ashford as a store has had its licence application refused.

The applicant wanted to use a domestic garage in New Rectory Lane to store stock. Customers would order drinks over the internet, which would then be delivered to their door.

The application raised many objections from neighbours, some of whom spoke at the borough council planning meeting.

They were concerned about increased traffic movements and the annoyance of noise and light in the evenings.

They also said the building was not secure enough to store valuable goods and it would be vulnerable to criminals.

However, the application had received no objections from the police.

Cllr Jim Wedgbury, ward member for Park Farm, said the garage was in a residential area and not designed for commercial use. The application was rejected on the grounds of public nuisance.

Pair flee fatal crash

THE driver and passenger of a car involved in a fatal accident are being hunted by police.

The pair fled after their Fiesta collided with a 50cc motorcycle on Monday.

The accident happened at about 5am on Canterbury Road, Willesborough, near the junction with Mead Road. The injured middle-aged rider was taken to the William Harvey Hospital but died later.

Police believe one occupant of the car may have sustained injuries in the accident that would need treatment.

The serious crash investigation unit attended and the road reopened at 10.30am. If you have any information, call the witness line on 01622 798538.

Most haunted village wants to be as quiet as the grave

BECAUSE of its reputation as the most haunted village in the country, Pluckley attracts more than its fare share of anti-social behaviour at Hallowe'en.

This year the parish council has decided to cancel celebrations that it used to stage on All Hallows Eve and increase policing in the area.

The parish website states: "On October 31 there will be a large police presence in the village.

No tours

"There will be no entertainment provided for visitors. There will be no barbecue, no hog roast, no beer tent, no fun fair and there will be no ghost tours.

"In fact, unless you are coming for a quiet drink, may we suggest you visit one of the many other attractions in Kent for Hallowe'en."

In past years the parish council's Hallowe'en committee had staged events at the village hall, but they attracted drunken revellers and caused traffic gridlock.

Residents have also been advised to keep gates locked and outside lights on to discourage trouble.

Poetic licence as Laureate calls in

CHILDREN'S Laureate Anthony Browne was sitting pretty at Hamstreet Primary School.

His visit before the half-term break was to officially open its storytelling chair and the occasion gave him a chance to emphasise the importance of traditional books in the digital age.

He said: "I feel the picture books I specialise in are being marginalised and face a threat from electronic books - but I don't think they'll ever replace them.

"The idea of having a page you can turn, an image in which children can spot little details and differences set out with the words in a book means that they can be shared with the parent, teacher or guardian.

"It's not just about the book itself but the relationship between the adult and the child.

"It's a terrible shame that children are being put to bed with a video or computer game to play with rather than that interaction with the parent."

Mr Browne is famous for his picture books which feature gorillas and other ape characters. He began designing artwork for greetings cards before moving into children's



POETRY PLEASE: Anthony Browne with pupils at Hamstreet Primary School

literature.

He said his early reading was helped by comics: "As with a lot of illustrators, my early reading began with comics.

"My parents didn't encourage me away from that, so I was reading longer books as well as reading comics at the same time."

The author said he had no qualms about having to be registered on the new government database for school visitors. He said authors didn't deserve special treatment when it came to a rule that applied to everyone working with children.

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NEWS IN BRIEFNew look shopping at
£2m improved Asda

THE Asda store on Kimberley Way held a re-opening ceremony this week after a £2.9 million make-over.

The store had previously been closed for three days as improvements were completed. The new-look supermarket features a redesigned butchers' counter and bakery, fresh pizza and fish deli counters, state-of-the-art refrigeration units and the latest music, video and games department.

General store manager, Chris Fawn, said: "I hope customers will enjoy improvements."

Learn more about scaly
creatures in the garden

GARDEN reptiles and amphibians is the subject of a talk entitled Dragons in Your Garden at the Singleton Environment Centre.

The session is aimed at homeowners keen to find out more about the scaly or slimy wildlife on their doorstep.

The talk takes place on November 25 and will run from 7.30pm until 9.30pm. Admission is £2. To book a place contact Virginia Hodge at Kent BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) on 01233 666519 or email v.hodge@btcv.org.uk.

MS sufferers can join
together at conference

A CONFERENCE for people with Multiple Sclerosis will be held at the Ashford International Hotel next month.

Special guest speaker will be Simon Laurens, winner of silver and team gold medals at the 2008 Paralympics.

Also talking at the event is Paul Bull, volunteer with the MS Society's research team, who will speak about living with MS.

A variety of stands giving information about other support groups for people with MS, carers support, therapy centres and activities for the disabled will also be available.

Volunteers from the Kent region and Kent branches of the MS Society will be available to answer questions and provide information on all aspects of MS – the most common disabling neurological condition affecting young adults.

For more information visit www.mssociety.org.uk/kent or to see if spaces are still available contact Gill Purnell on 0208 438 0863 or email g.niblock987@btinternet.com.

WWII secret
army leader
passes away

LIEUTENANT-Colonel Norman Field, who died recently aged 92, was in charge of organising Britain's last line of defence in the face of a potential Nazi invasion.

After escaping the Dunkirk beaches and reaching the safety of the Isle of Sheppey, despite constant air attacks by Nazi Stuka dive-bombers, Lt-Col Field trained and led the Kent-based Auxiliary Units – termed "Churchill's Secret Army".

In 1940, amidst a very real risk of invasion, the British War Cabinet approved an inter-services assessment of the need to supplement the regular defences with guerrilla-type troops, which led to the formation of the units.

Carefully selected officers were given the task of recruiting promising local inhabitants in their allotted areas and forming them into patrols.

In the event of an invasion, these men were to leave their homes and move to pre-prepared Operational Bases underground – some of which still exist just outside Ashford.

Their job was to remain hidden during the

■ BY NICK AMES

invasion, come up behind the enemy lines and hinder the German advance by laying mines and booby traps.

Lt-Col Field himself had been wounded during the evacuation from Dunkirk, and had become frustrated by his inactivity while on sick leave. After applying for special duties he was posted to The Garth at Bilting just outside Ashford where the operation was being based.

He then took over command of Auxiliary Units in Kent from Peter Fleming, the brother of 007 creator Ian.

Earlier in the war at La Panne, near Dunkirk, during the evacuation, he was sheltering from heavy fire by a cellar window when he was wounded.

"I was crouched in a cavity maybe six inches deep," he recalled, "and I felt my left hand move. I lifted it up and my fingers wouldn't work. I realised I'd been clobbered, but I didn't feel a thing, not then."

"Only my thumb and forefinger were fully functional. When I realised that I had lost the



SURVIVORS: Lt-Col Norman Field (centre) on VE Day, May 8, 1945, Copenhagen, with Danish resistance fighters

back of my hand and it wouldn't work, I thought I'd better see who I could find on the beach."

Having had his wounds dressed, Field climbed into a small canvas rowing boat and was taken out to a minesweeper. On board, the ship and its weary passengers were dive-bombed by five Stukas which came screaming down to about 200ft before releasing their bombs – several splashed down within 30ft.

Eventually Lt-Col Field reached Sheerness, he telephoned his young wife with the news that he was safe. Shortly afterwards, she received a telegram to say that he was missing, presumed dead.

He retired from the Army in 1948.

After settling just outside Ashford over a period of 14 years Lt-Col Field built up a mushroom farm which supplied Covent Garden and many of the best restaurants.

Repairing machinery started him sculpting in steel, and he exhibited successfully at the City of London Guildhall Art Exhibition and on the Continent.

He died last month in Canterbury's Chaucer Hospital after a short illness.



STORY CORNER: Anthony Browne with Hamstreet Primary School pupils

Children's author chairs event

ANTHONY Browne, the Children's Laureate, met pupils at Hamstreet Primary School last week.

He was visiting the school to officially open its storytelling chair. The event gave him a chance to emphasise the importance of traditional books in the digital age.

He said: "I feel that picture books that I specialise in are being marginalised and face a threat from electronic books but I don't think they will ever replace them. The idea of having a page you can turn, an image in which children can spot little details and differences set out with the words in a book means that they can be shared with the parent, teacher or guardian."

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Mr Browne is famous for his picture books which feature gorillas and other ape characters. He began designing artwork for greetings cards before moving into children's literature.

The author also said he had no qualms about being registered on the new government database for school visitors. He said authors did not deserve special treatment when it came to a rule that applied to everyone working with children.

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SITE: The Otterpool Quarry in Sellindge where plans for a new recycling plant have caused uproar amongst villagers

Updated recycling plant plans lack 'understanding'

UPDATED plans submitted by the company hoping to build a sludge recycling plant in Sellindge show a basic "lack of understanding" of the site, according to campaigners.

Developers Countrystyle say the proposal, to build an anaerobic digester and recycling depot at the old Otterpool Quarry on the A20, will fulfil the region's recycling targets and combat rising levels of household waste.

But villagers in Sellindge are in uproar and say it would blight the area, which is already facing the prospect of a 2,500 space lorry park in nearby Aldington.

Amendments

A number of recent amendments have been made to the scheme following talks with Kent County Council and feedback from a public meeting, including an Environmental Impact Assessment and more information on site drainage and landscaping.

A Countrystyle spokesman said the extra information just reinforced what was already in the 2007 application and the impact statement was only required after KCC changed its mind.

"The statement provided information from the manufacturer on how the proposed anaerobic digestion plant is designed and operated to control dust and odour.

"As long as the plant is built and operated in accordance with the manufacturer's specification, there is no reason why dust or odour should be a problem at Otterpool.

"In addition to planning permission, the

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

application will need an environmental permit from the Environment Agency before it can operate, and this permit will set strict limits on odour and dust emissions from the Otterpool site and the Environment Agency will monitor this."

Ronald Lello, chairman of the Sellindge and District Residents' Association which opposes the plans, said they remained "astonished at the level of contempt" shown by Countrystyle.

He said: "Countrystyle were expected to submit further research and information.

"Despite these requests we cannot trace any additional research or information of any significance in the new submission.

"Countrystyle continue to demonstrate a lack of understanding of the most basic aspects of this particular site.

"The absence of relevant information makes it impossible to provide a properly reasoned assessment of the effect upon the environment and the quality of life of the residents of Sellindge and the surrounding area."

He also said the details were not enough to estimate the physical height or shape of the plant and would be too close to proposed new homes.

The anaerobic digestion process involves breaking the waste down into a sludge-like liquid which is then used as farmland fertiliser.

Sellindge is already in line to see another 300 homes built in the village, as part of a total of 1,100 for the surrounding area, as detailed in Shepway council's local development framework.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

More shops let at square

FOUR new businesses are coming to County Square shopping centre.

Kids Stuff, Watches R Us, Silverleaf Jewellery and a newsagent have all agreed terms to open new shops or extend their leases to ten years.

County Square almost doubled in size when it opened its new extension last year and included the town's first nationwide department store with the opening of Debenhams.

The announcement was made by ING Retail Property Fund Britannica, which owns the shopping mall.

Steven Gay, head of asset management for Britannica, said: "The new tenants at County Square are a welcome addition to the retail mix. They compliment what is already there and should be a hit with the local shoppers.

"Even though we are operating in a tough retail climate, it is reassuring to see that footfall is up and that we are still attracting tenants to this newly developed scheme."

Disabled swimmer's gone to Iceland to win a medal

A PARALYMPICS swimmer from Ashford has been taking part in the European Swimming Championships in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Nicholas Boylan has been competing in the event which for the first time since the Sydney Paralympics in 2000, has allowed athletes with learning disabilities to take part.

Nicholas participates in the S14 classification. In this group athletes with learning disabilities compete together but depending on their disability are placed separately.

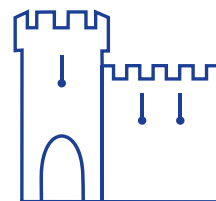
Nicholas swims with the Canterbury Swimming Club and is captain of the GB Learning Disability Swimming Team.

He won a gold medal for the 4 x 100m at the last global games, where his team set a new world record.

If all goes well with the re-introduction of learning disabled athletes into swimming, Mr Boylan hopes to be part of the GB swimming squad for the London 2012 games.



PROSPECT: Swimmer Nicholas Boylan



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Chinese impressed by housing services

A DELEGATION of housing chiefs from Kunming in south west China visited Ashford recently to learn how the council delivers its housing services.

The three housing directors also visited Stanhope to see firsthand how the community is being transformed through a £150m regeneration project.

Ashford council's head of housing, Tracey Kerly, said: "Kunming is a very large strategic growth area that faces many similar issues as Ashford.

"They were impressed by reports of the Stanhope PFI project and decided to find out how we do things."

Their visit follows on from a group of housing chiefs from Milton Keynes who also visited the estate.

David Moore, director of housing at Milton Keynes, said: "The visit was inspiring. We are trying to address similar challenges on



one of our estates and it gave us a feel of how we could approach our particular issues, the resources it takes, how to engage with the community and how we can work with partners to achieve these ends."

The Chinese visitors presented Ashford council's head of housing with copies of Mao Zedong's favourite poems.

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The modern relevance of poppy appeals



■ BY CHRIS MURPHY

WITH the continued deaths of British servicemen in Afghanistan, this year's poppy appeal for fallen fighters is ever more poignant.

The appeal was launched on Thursday by the Royal British Legion with the slogan "For their sake, wear a poppy".

Since 2001, more than 220 members of the Armed Forces – including soldiers from Kent – have been killed in Afghanistan, and more than 300 troops have been wounded in Helmand Province alone.

In decades past, we bought poppies to remember those who fell in two world wars and other conflicts.

Tragedies

But the tragedies suffered by the families of those men and women is now being shared in these new modern day battles.

Along with the dead, thousands more have been hurt in Iraq, many with brutal injuries.

During the launch ceremony, hosted by the chairman of Kent County Council, John Davies, representatives from active serving units across the county, many of whom have served in Afghanistan and Iraq, were formally presented the first poppies of the 2009 Appeal.

This was done by school children from St Paul's and Benenden Primary Schools who handed each veteran a poppy.

Those that have fallen in Kent in recent years include Flight Sgt Gary Andrews, 48, from Tankerton, who was with 120 Squadron RAF; Sgt Dave Wilkinson, 33, from Ashford, with 19 Regiment Royal Artillery; Major Alexis Roberts, 32, with 1st Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles; Lance Corporal Jake Alderton, 22, from Bexley, with 36 Engineer Regiment; Lance Corporal James Johnson, 31, from Chatham, with 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland, and Captain Ben Babington-Browne, 27, from Maidstone, who



REMEMBER: Poppy appeal has been launched by the Royal British Legion with slogan "For their sake, wear a poppy"

was with 22 Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers.

Royal British Legion county manager, Geoff Simpson, said: "The two weeks of Remembrancetide provide a time when we can honour the memory of those who have died."

"However, in remembering the dead, we must not forget the living, particularly those who have had their lives shattered by dreadful wounding, or the loss of a loved one."

"The funds raised through our annual poppy appeal help provide emotional and financial support for servicemen and their families, who are trying to rebuild their lives."

"The people of Kent generously donated just over £1 million during last year's poppy appeal."

"However, we see daily increases in the number of people turning to us for help."

"The support we have given this year has been extensive – from funding a laptop that

allowed a young ex-soldier suffering from post traumatic stress disorder to order his shopping online and keep in contact with his family, to helping an estranged wife and her three children move out of a women's refuge and into a rented home of their own. For their sake, wear a poppy."

Because of the ever-growing number of casualties, the Legion said the focus of this year's appeal is to help what it called "the Afghan generation" of the Armed Forces and their families.

Since 2003, the Legion has financially assisted 10,000 Middle East veterans, and helped win £7.5m additional compensation paid to the most seriously injured heroes.

It has also provided £1.8m for combat stress to provide treatment for mental traumas, provided housing and employment, and even adventure breaks and family holidays to hundreds of veterans, all of whom saw action in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Fatal crash outside of village church

A WOMAN has died following a car crash outside a village church.

The accident, which involved a silver Peugeot and a Mondeo, happened at about 9.30am on Thursday on the A26 Tonbridge Road at Watlington, near Maidstone.

It is thought the 48-year-old, from Gravesend, was trapped inside her vehicle following the crash, which was attended by staff from all three emergency services.

Pedigree puppies stolen during raid

THIEVES made off with nine cocker spaniels after breaking into kennels on a village industrial estate.

Four black-and-white puppies and five adults were stolen during the raid in Iwade, near Sittingbourne, which took place between October 14-15.

The estimated value of the dogs – none of which were micro-chipped – is about £4,000.

Lifeboat rescued skilled Dutch sailor

A DUTCH sailor rescued after his boat suffered engine failure said he was sad to have called for help after 40 years' experience of sailing.

The owner said he was pleased to see the Dover lifeboat come to the aid of his small angling boat, which had been drifting in the north-east shipping lane on passage to The Netherlands.

Deputy Second Coxswain Mark Finnis led the RNLI lifeboat out of Dover just after 1pm on Monday, October 19, to the disabled vessel, which was 11 miles out of port.

The stricken seven-metre water-jet angling boat, together with its single occupant, was then towed to Dover Marina.

Mr Finnis said: "Conditions in the Channel were moderate and the boat was drifting in the nautical equivalent of the M25."

"Everything went well and the gentleman was last seen boarding a ferry to go home, leaving his new boat in Dover."

Large driving fine

A POLISH motorist has been handed Kent's largest ever fine of £7,500 for twice being caught driving a dangerously overweight lorry on the M20.

Janaszcz appeared before Sevenoaks magistrates this morning, when he was also ordered to pay £85 court costs and a £15 victim surcharge on top of the mammoth fine.



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yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

TERRY STOCK



Q What is the history of the association?

A Ashford council acknowledged a historic link with Hopewell Virginia on December 9, 1993 and the twinning link was formalised on July 23, 1999. This was brought into being by the mayor at the time Gordon Turner and Jane McCullem of Hopewell. One of the main reasons for the link was the fact that Captain Francis Epps, born in North Street inn in May 1597, took a ship called the Hopewell in the 1600s to Virginia and went up the St James River where both Jamestown and Hopewell were established. In May 2007 the Americans held celebrations to remember the founding of the colony.

Q How did you get involved?

A I became involved with the Friends of Hopewell when my wife Maureen and I moved from New Eltham to Ashford in March 2003. I was asked to stand as chairman at the AGM held in November 2007 and was elected again in 2008.

Q What sort of events do you organise?

A The events we hold raise money for the visits to America which take place every other year. Boot fairs, craft sales, coffee mornings, dinners and raffles. Members of the club also pay an annual subscription of £8. We are always looking for new members. Should any-

one wish to join I can be contacted on 01233 666291. We also hold a monthly meeting on the third Monday of every month at the Downtown Diner in Park Street from 7.30-9pm.

Q What sort of a place is Hopewell, Virginia?

A The town has timber-built houses, some with swimming pools. While you are there you can visit Richmond which is the capital of Virginia and Jamestown where the colony began. Other places of interest are Williamsburg which is still maintained in old English fashion, Virginia Beach, Cheapsake Bay and others.

Q I believe you have only just got back from your latest trip to Hopewell. How was it?

A Eighteen of us went on the trip. It was fantastic. The Americans did lots of wonderful things for us. We arrived in Richmond to be greeted by the Stars and Stripes and Union Jack and a banner saying Welcome Brits. Everyone was cheering and it was a very warm welcome. We went to a hog roast and the Suffolk peanut festival. One day we had to attend a school and the children had prepared 104 questions for us and we had to sit in the school assembly hall and answer all their questions. They asked all sorts of things about the UK and the questions were quite in-depth.

Some members stayed just one week with the American families, some stayed for longer. We were there for three weeks because we

hired a car and used it as a chance to see some of the sights of America. We drove 1,784 miles around the country. We left Hopewell and took in Winchester, Lake Ontario, the Arlington cemetery and Washington.

One of the American members also let us stay in her log cabin for two days. It was near a place called Charlottesville in the mountains, which was wonderful. We expect around 20 American members to join us next September.

Q What would you say to someone thinking of joining? How can people get involved?

A As previously stated there are benefits to becoming a member as Cllr William Howard twinning officer for Ashford council will probably agree.

Q How else do you spend your spare time?

A I am a member of the South Ashford Forum and serve on the London Committee of the Post Office federation looking after the interests of pensioners. My wife and I still enjoy travel, walking and our grandchildren.

Q Did you have any childhood heroes? What was it that you admired about them?

A My father was my hero. He served in the Navy for 28 years. He was at the battle of Jutland in the First World War and served in the Second World War. He was in Submarines for 11 years and on the surface for 17.

Terry Stock Chairman of Friends of Hopewell Association talks to **Ed Hill** about his interesting, historic visits to the twinned town of Hopewell Virginia in America and why his father is his childhood hero

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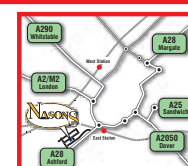


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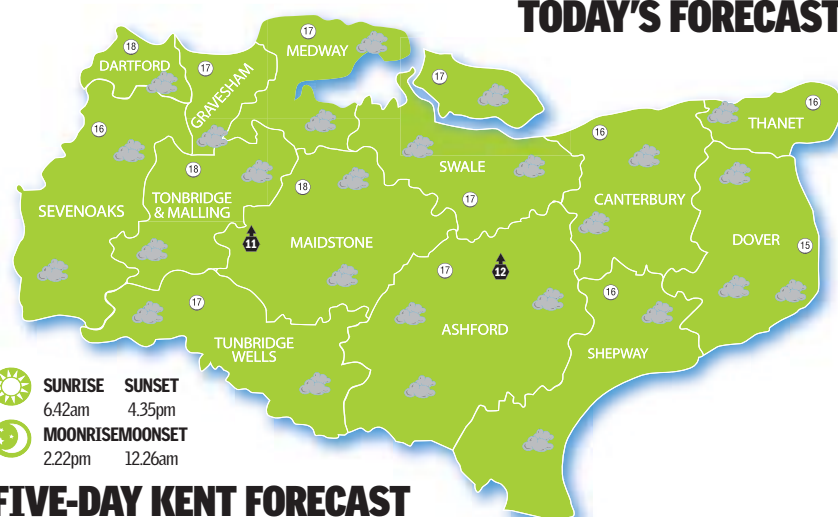
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WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	10:40am	5.5m
	Sunday	11:23am	5.7m
Dover	Saturday	9:04am	6.1m
	Sunday	9:37am	6.3m
Dungeness	Saturday	9:06am	6.9m
	Sunday	9:46am	7.3m
Ramsgate	Saturday	9:34am	4.6m
	Sunday	10:07am	4.8m
Sheerness	Saturday	10:29am	5.3m
	Sunday	11:12am	5.5m
Whitstable	Saturday	10:28am	4.9m
	Sunday	11:08am	5.0m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	14°C	Madrid	23°C
Athens	22°C	New York	15°C
Barcelona	21°C	Paris	17°C
Beijing	19°C	Rome	20°C
Bombay	34°C	Sydney	17°C
Cape Town	25°C	Tenerife	25°C
Cardiff	15°C	Tokyo	15°C
Gibraltar	21°C	Vancouver	8°C
Hong Kong	29°C	Warsaw	10°C
Las Palmas	25°C	Wellington	16°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	17°C	18°C	17°C	17°C	17°C	Gravesend	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C
Canterbury	15°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	Maidstone	17°C	18°C	17°C	17°C	18°C
Chatham	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	Ramsgate	15°C	16°C	16°C	16°C	16°C
Dartford	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	Rochester	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Dover	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	Sevenoaks	15°C	16°C	15°C	16°C	16°C
Faversham	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	Sittingbourne	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C
Folkestone	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	Tonbridge	16°C	17°C	17°C	17°C	17°C
Gillingham	16°C	17°C	16°C	17°C	17°C	Tun Wells	16°C	17°C	17°C	17°C	17°C



ACTING UP: The Ashford Youth Theatre

Youth theatre have much to do with new production

ASHFORD Youth Theatre will be staging their production of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* this week.

The romantic comedy set in Sicily revolves around lovers Claudio and Hero, who have to get married in a week.

The youth theatre is staging the performance at its old railway shed in Dover Place and has been set in the era of Jane Austin.

The Youth Theatre draws its members from schools in the area as well as senior members who support it year to year and Stella Critchley, who runs the group, said: "This year's cast have been marvellous to work with."

"They do audition but it's not a terrifying experience. We usually get just the right number who we need to take part in the play, which can be quite a lot when it is Shakespeare."

Mrs Critchley says although the Elizabethan language can be difficult for the young cast, once they have got past that initial barrier they never look back.

She said: "It is challenging for them but we only do Shakespeare when we know we have a good cast. Once they are aware of what they are saying they deliver it with such vigour and say the lines so well the audience really enjoy it."

Much Ado About Nothing is on today, tomorrow and Friday of this week at 1 Dover Place. The show starts at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £7.

you said You were concerned about anti-social behaviour in Ashford

we did Kent Police increased patrols in hotspot areas and worked with other agencies to target offenders. As a result, reports of anti-social behaviour reduced by 12% over the last year. That's 483 fewer incidents. If you see it, report it



For actions on priorities where you live visit: www.kent.police.uk/yousaidwedid
 To report non-urgent crime and anti-social behaviour, call **01622 690690**
 In an emergency, dial **999**. For the deaf and speech impaired, text 'Police' to **60066**

Community Safety
after-hours for everyone



ASK THE CHIEF



Chief Constable Michael Fuller answers readers' questions as part of our A Safer Kent Campaign. See all of your questions and answers at www.kentnews.co.uk

QUESTION: What do you think about the zero-tolerance policy adopted in New York?

Patricia Burton, Folkestone

ANSWER: The concept of zero-tolerance policing was made famous in the mid-90s by New York mayor Rudy Giuliani and works on the assumption that by quickly and firmly addressing minor problems within a locality, a strong message is sent out that more serious crime will not be tolerated.

However, this approach has attracted criticism for removing officer discretion and unnecessarily criminalising large numbers of local people, and there is still much debate among criminologists as to its effectiveness at actually reducing levels of crime.

Kent Police are committed to dealing with low-level crime and antisocial behaviour, and we target this through our local neighbourhood policing teams and the recently-introduced neighbourhood task teams. I strongly believe we need to achieve this in partnership with local communities and that my officers need to retain the ability to exercise discretion and use their own common sense – something the public would quite rightly expect.

QUESTION: Can you explain why for many years your officers have allowed hundreds of speeding motorcyclists to use the roads in and out of Tenterden every summer weekend as a virtual TT course?

Not only are they a menace to themselves, but to pedestrians and all other road-users as well. I have complained to the previous holder of your position, but nothing was ever done and I certainly have never seen a speed trap on our local roads.

Steps should, in my view, be taken now to prepare a rude awakening for these lawless idiots in time for next summer.

Peter Lake, Tenterden

ANSWER: Kent Police take the issue of speeding motorcyclists very seriously. In the Ashford district, which includes Tenterden, this important issue is treated as a priority in a number of wards following feedback from the PACT (Partners and Communities Together) processes in both rural and urban areas.

The subject of speeding motorcyclists forms part of our daily business and is incorporated into our 'You said, we did' information campaigns. Since the beginning of last month, 26 rural-road checks have been completed in the Tenterden area, resulting in 46 drivers being dealt with for a variety of offences.

In addition, a specialist motorbike team patrols areas where problems are identified and provides advice to riders. Its role specifically focuses on reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads, but also addresses antisocial behaviour by riders.

QUESTION: We are continually being told the crime rate is falling, but is that because the public feels reporting offences is pointless as the police appear disinterested?

Patricia Burton, Folkestone

ANSWER: Kent Police set priorities to tackle antisocial behaviour and crime. We achieve this by ensuring our emergency response patrols react to calls for assistance that need immediate attendance. Kent Police's Initial Crime Investigation Unit deals with all reports of crime that do not require the immediate attendance of a patrol. The unit consists of 60 investigators providing a round-the-clock service. The staff have specialised training to enable them to provide a quality investigation at the first point of contact with the caller, ensuring each caller receives the best possible service. At local level we have seen a marked increase in the number of crimes attended by police.

Antisocial behaviour and crime put in the spotlight

A THREE-WEEK crack-down on crime and antisocial behaviour was launched by Kent Police this week, *writes Jane Barlow*.

It will run until November 8 and will give the message that illegal and nuisance behaviour will not be tolerated while at the same time reassuring people the police and many other organisations are working together to make their communities safer.

During the three weeks, Kent Police will be working with local councils, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, Neighbourhood Watch, Clean Kent, the Probation Service, the Kent and Medway Camera Safety Partnership, Kent County Council and the Medway Unitary Authority.

The campaign will focus on three themes:

- Crime and disorder – this will include action to reduce incidents of antisocial behaviour associated with Halloween and fireworks
- Antisocial use of vehicles – this will include specialist patrols targeting those motorists who put lives at risk by speeding, using mobile phones while driving, not wearing seatbelts, or by driving uninsured, unroad-worthy, untaxed vehicles. Patrols will also target nuisance off-road motorcycling
- Environmental antisocial behaviour – activities will aim to improve the environment through the removal of graffiti, rubbish and abandoned and untaxed vehicles and the identification of individuals or companies responsible for flytipping.

Inspector Phil Hibben, who is co-ordinating police efforts across the county, said: "Antisocial behaviour and crime can have a significant impact on people's quality of life."

"During these three weeks the police will be working closely with local councils and other



COORDINATOR: Inspector Phil Hibben

agencies to tackle the issues that matter most to local people and bring offenders to justice.

"The darker evenings and a seasonal rise in casualties on the roads will mean we will also be targeting drivers who pose the greatest risk to other road-users."

"Specialist officers will be identifying and prosecuting drivers who drive in an antisocial manner."

Part of the campaign, called Operation Velo, will see police officers going out on their bikes rather than in patrol cars to speak with members of the public.

When Operation Velo ran at the end of August it resulted in 900 engagements with youngsters, who were given road safety advice.

The campaign will also include Operation Cubit, which is coordinated by KCC and removes untaxed and abandoned vehicles from the roads. The campaign also takes in Not In My Neighbourhood Week, which runs nationally from November 2-6.

During the three weeks, action planned across the county includes:

- In Maidstone PCSOs will be visiting shops selling fireworks to remind retailers about the law.
- Dover officers will be tackling inconsiderate parking outside schools.
- In Gravesend and Dartford, meetings will be held with retailers, at which Trading Standards and Kent Police will give advice.
- Ashford police officers will be going into secondary schools to speak about the dangers of playing with fireworks and about road safety. PCSOs will be recording number-plates of drivers not wearing seatbelts or using mobile phones at the wheel.

Officers from Ashford are expecting to be particularly busy on October 31 as the village of Pluckley is reportedly the country's most haunted place and there could be an influx of visitors.



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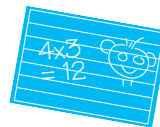


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BREAK TIME

Burning issue told on pupil's posters

CHILDREN at Great Chart Primary School in Singleton have been designing posters about fire safety.

The competition is part of Kent Fire and Rescue Services' education programme. The children were told about the dangers of playing with aerosols, making hoax calls to the emergency services, and were reminded to check smoke alarms at home are working.

The winning design was created by year three student Anna Pierce, who was presented with a £20 gift voucher. The other children were given a t-shirt.

Fire education officer Phil Reeves said: "We try to teach the children about the dangers of fire but I hope we also make it fun as well."

"We come back to the schools each year and these posters show that the message does get through. It is very important especially as we recently had a young man who died in a fire in New Romney."

Fly along to school bonfire charity do

THE Towers School will be holding its Bonfire night on November 4.

This year the event is raising money for the Kent Air Ambulance.

Linda Bolt from the school said: "Last year we had more than 700 people. It is a great night which many of the students help to organise themselves."

The display starts at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £10 for a family ticket for two adults and two children, or £3 per person.



LESSON TO EUROPE: Four students from the Towers School in Kennington gave a presentation at a conference to show specialists how successful Peer Education is for them

European delegates peer into Kent school education

FOUR students from the Towers School in Kennington recently gave a presentation to a delegation from Europe about taking an active part in their education.

Peer Education encourages children to take a leading role in many areas of school life and includes them helping to teach fellow students. The idea is growing in popularity in UK schools.

The conference, hosted by Canterbury Christ Church University, also involved the Spires Academy in Canterbury and Sittingbourne Community College. The university is working with several schools in Kent on the project.

The students demonstrated to the education specialists from Italy, Denmark, Poland and

■ BY ED HILL

Romania the benefits of students also being leaders at the school.

It is said Peer Education not only boosts the self esteem and confidence of those taking part it also helps to improve their academic performance.

Deputy head Catherine St Ville explained the many areas of school life that pupils take part in. They include involvement in staff induction, appointments, research and organising conferences as well as many aspects of learning in the classroom.

She said: "This helps students to become truly independent learners by teaching them the necessary skills."

Year 10 students Kudzie Chipeni and Dion Orris said students have been trained to lead the summary at the end of the lesson to check

that students have made progress.

Students Beth Corley and Robert Leach gave a presentation about student-led collaborative lesson evaluations which help students and teachers to work together and become what is described as 'learning partners' to improve learning.

In the afternoon the students, along with Towers' teachers Katie Taylor and Ross Blair, discussed issues with young people from the other schools.

Catherine Carden, Christ Church's senior lecturer for initial teacher education, said: "The Towers students were impressive and courageous. The work at the school is cutting edge."

Towers School says it will continue to be involved with the International Peer Education project led by Canterbury Christ Church University.

SEND your schools news and pictures to yourashford@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk

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KENT ON SUNDAY

yourashfordblogger

Simon Robinson explains why readers should oppose Boris Johnson's floating airport scheme off Kent's coast



So many reasons we can't allow Boris's plans to take off

BORIS Johnson's barmy Thames Estuary airport plan must never touch down.

The hare-brained £40 billion proposal has numerous fatal flaws, most of which are so blatantly, smack-in-the-face obvious a child could point them out.

The floating airport proposal has been criticised for being too expensive, impractical, environmentally and ecologically unsound, unfeasible, unwanted and a host of other bad words.

Furthermore, it fails miserably against any set of criterion you may wish to stack it up against. Let's just consider one or two of the main drawbacks to plopping a huge six runway airport off the Kent coast.

First things first, there's the astronomical cost. With the £40 billion sum – that's £40,000 million or £40,000,000,000 – we could build the equivalent of ten London Heathrow Terminal 5's or buy Cristiano Ronaldo, the world's most expensive player, 500 times over.

Quite what we'd do with 500 Portuguese step-over merchants is another matter but that's beside the point.

Then there are the logistical issues.

The Mayor of London wants to build an airport in the middle of the Estuary, a few miles away from land. The airport would be served by two terminals, one in Kent, and one in Essex.

How would thousands of passengers get to and from these terminals each day?

They couldn't get there by car. Anyone who's tried to drive through Medway, Maidstone, Ashford, Canterbury, Dover or anywhere else around the county can vouch for the fact that the road network is on its knees.

Adding a few thousand extra cars to our roads is not only impractical, it's downright dangerous. And they won't get there by train either. Again, anyone who's been faced with a peak-time journey on Southeastern trains knows the carriages are already full to bursting and the customer satisfaction levels are somewhat short of 'acceptable', let alone 'good' or 'we need more passengers on board'.

Then you've got the ecological impact of building a six runway airport off Kent's wildlife-rich coast. This serene stretch is currently home to a whole host of migrating and breeding birds, many of which are rare or protected.

For all these reasons, and many, many more, Medway Council, Kent County Council and the RSPB have joined forces to oppose the plans. The partners have set up a website – www.stopestuaryairport.com – which Yourmedway supports. There are whispers around Whitehall that the mayor's estuary airport plans are simply political grandstanding of the highest order, diverting attention away from further developing London's airports ahead of next year's London elections.

But let's not take the risk. It's up to us to send a clear message to Boris that Kent does not want his airport.

We need names on the anti-airport petition to force the mayor to scrap his plane-stupid plans. Go build your airport somewhere where the transport network can cope and the environmental impact will be less devastating.

GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



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LET US KNOW...

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the the acting news editor, **Gareth Arnold**, on 01303 817184 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Ashford blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourashford.co.uk.

Write to The Editor, YourAshford, KoS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

* We cannot guarantee all articles will be published and all are at the editor's discretion

CROSSKEYS COACHES



November

		ADULT
Mon 2nd	Afternoon Cite Europe	£13.00
Sat 7th	Disney On Ice Princess Wishes	£41.00
Tues 10th	Cherkley Court & Gardens Christmas Fair	£19.50
Wed 11th	Ypres Battlefield Tour & Menin Gate	£35.00
Mon 16th	Westfield Shopping Centre	£17.00
Thur 19th	Boulogne	£23.00
Sat 21st	Romford Market	£15.00
Wed 25th	Bluewater or Lakeside	£16.50
Sat 28th	Bruges Christmas Markets	£31.00
Sat 28th	Birmingham Tattoo (2 Days 1 Night)	£97.00
Mon 30th	Warner's Bodelwyddan Castle Historic Hotel, Wales (5 Days 4 Nights)	£295.00
Mon 30th	Maidstone & Newnham Court Shopping Village	£11.50

December

CHRISTMAS TRIPS IN DECEMBER

ADULT

Sat 5th	Christmas at Heaven Farm & Batemans	£19.50
Sun 6th	Frankfurt Christmas Markets in Birmingham	£34.00
Mon 7th	Afternoon Cite Europe	£13.00
Thurs 10th	London Christmas Lights & Sights	£16.00
Sat 12th	Thursford Christmas Spectacular	£58.00
Sat 12th	Bruges Christmas Markets	£31.00
Sun 13th	Lille Christmas Markets	£33.00
Sat 19th	Christmas at Disneyland Paris	£60.50
Sun 20th	Calais Christmas Markets	£19.50



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yourcompetition



WIN tickets to the best Christmas party in town!

THE Orchard in Dartford is proud to be hosting the premiere of the fabulous Blues Brothers Xmas Party from November 4-7, before the show embarks on its new UK tour. And to celebrate Jake and Elwood coming to town we have SEVEN pairs of tickets up for grabs for you to enjoy this feel-good musical!

Storming its way through hits including Soul Man, Everybody Needs Somebody To Love, Mustang Sally, Jailhouse Rock and a special Christmas Medley, The Blues Brothers Xmas Party has more baubles than you can shake your tail-feather at!

Simply answer the following question and email your answer, name, address and telephone number to marketing@orchardthe-

atre.co.uk by Sunday, November 1. Winners will be notified on Monday, November 2 and winning tickets will be for the performance on Wednesday, November 4 at 7.30pm. Alternatively you can post your entry on a postcard to Orchard Theatre, Home Gardens, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1ED.

Question: Which soul legend played the part of Reverend Cleophus James in the original Blues Brothers 1980 film?

Tickets will be reserved in the winner's name to be collected from The Orchard Ticket Office prior to the show. Please note that tickets cannot be transferred to any other time, date or show.

For further information on The Blues Brothers Xmas Party please call the The Orchard Ticket Office on 01322 220000 or visit www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

For our full Terms and Conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or for a posted copy of the T&Cs call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.



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yourletters



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TALK TIME

KIM HILLS

Kim Hills Kent Highway Services head of community operations talks to us about keeping Kent's roads safe throughout winter



How was last year's weather when it came to keeping the roads clear?

Last winter was one of the wettest and coldest for over a decade. Due to our planning and preparations the majority of our roads were kept open, snow was cleared and we had enough salt in stock to carry out non-stop, night time salting. We are well prepared for the coming winter ahead.

How do you decide whether to send out the lorries or keep them in the depot?

We have 53 lorries which operate in Kent. From mid-October to mid-April we monitor the weather closely. Information is gathered every hour from 13 weather stations and then merged with a detailed weather forecast. The resulting information is issued to us three times a day by our forecast agency and specially trained winter duty officers assess this and turn it into a Kent Road Weather Forecast.

This year I believe you are using new technology to keep the roads clear?

We will be using a new pre-wet salt system on some of our roads. The salt is sprayed with water as it comes out of the back of the lorry. This means that it sticks to the road better and does not get blown away by the wind. It also means that we do not have to use as much salt. We estimate this system uses about 30 per cent less.

Are there alternatives to using salt?

There are materials which have been used on airport runways but they are more expensive and we could not afford to use them on the miles of road in Kent.

YOUR LETTERS

Yourashford reels in anglers for event

Back in July this year I wrote to Yourashford informing you of a classic charity event which was taking place in Cranbrook, at the Hartley Lands Farm Fishery. Thanks to your publicity the Nick Puncher Memorial Match attracted anglers from all over Kent. On behalf of the top professional match anglers who also attended from the West Midlands, they asked me to inform your readers they will all be returning again next year.

Roman Skura (from SBS) who won on the day said "to win the trophy is wonderful", but to support and boost funds for charity makes it all worthwhile.

John Keatley, Hothfield PS Charities who benefited on the day were Macmillan Cancer and Weald of Kent Hospice.

Biker is Bok in saddle for 25,000-mile charity trek



Good luck from one biker to another

Just writing to say good luck to Spencer Conway for his Africa trip.



COMMENT ONLINE TOO

Not only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourashford.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article. To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think.

And remember, www.yourashford.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Ashford and Tenterden as well as our villages. We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience. In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourashford before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

On www.yourashford.co.uk you can access, for free, the full newspaper in our highly-acclaimed e-editions.

Also, well done to Yourashford, which I've noticed seems to be a very bike-friendly paper. Makes a change from portraying us all as two-wheeled hooligans.

Mike Batt, email

yourashfordblogger

A book that looks set to profit from the collapse of 'pick 'n' mix'



I will not miss tacky Woolworths

I can't believe someone has taken the time to write a book about Woolworths. Like Gary Wright, I will not bemoan its passing, and look forward to the end of the recession when new shops move in to take its place.

Everything about Woolworths seemed tacky, the cheap toys and homeware, the over-stacked, chaotic shelves, the creaky wood-effect laminate flooring.

It is hardly surprising the company has been one of the recession's most prominent victims. The only odd thing is the number of people who seem to have held the failed business in such high regard.

Kevin May, by email

There is a sense of nostalgia about loss

Thanks Gary Wright for drawing attention to 'The Wonder of Woolies'. It was an interesting blog, but unlike you, I can see why people of a certain age feel a certain amount of nostalgia for Woolworths.

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While I agree that towards the end the chain had "lost its way" (it would be foolish to deny this given its collapse!), when it first started Woolies was a new kind of store.

These were the days before supermarkets, oft cited as a reason for Woolworths' demise, when having a number of products under one roof was a real novelty.

Hence, Woolies will always hold particular memories for some people, despite the rather gaudy, cheap and cheerful image of later years.

Mary Graham, by email

Screen to let your heart be seen

Every day, at least one family in the UK will suffer the trauma of losing a young (aged 35 and under) person to an undiagnosed heart condition.

And, once again, the tragedy of sudden cardiac death in young people has been making news.

The premature death of Boyzone star, Stephen Gately aged just 33 highlights the indiscriminate and cruel nature of this syndrome which continues to claim the lives of at least 12 young people every week in the UK.

This week is Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) Awareness Week and

we are committed to raising awareness of sudden cardiac death and the importance of screening.

In fact, we're proud to announce the launch of a new initiative to offer free screening to 14 year olds (born in 1995 – the year that CRY was founded) across the South East.

Eighty per cent of young people have no signs or symptoms, so the only way to detect a potentially sinister cardiac abnormality is by having a simple screening testing. We hope this pioneering new initiative will lay the foundations for a future national screening programme that we know could save thousands of lives.

Please do contact us if you would like information about our new screening programme for 14 year olds. Or, if you or a family you know has been affected by sudden cardiac death or would like to find out more about the support services we

provide, please visit www.c-r-y.org.uk.

Alison Cox MBE, Chief Executive and Founder of Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY)

Calling marathon runners for charity

Have any of your readers been lucky enough to secure a place in the 2010 Virgin London Marathon through

the public ballot?

We at World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF) are writing to appeal to those who have secured their own place in the Virgin London Marathon to consider fundraising for us.

It's really easy to join Team WCRF and in return we offer full support with training and nutritional advice, an essential runners kit containing your unique WCRF running vest and pedometer, a fundraising pack and your own personalised online sponsorship page.

WCRF also offers a pasta party the day before the race and a post-race reception with a free massage and shower to soothe away any aches or pains.

Scientists estimate that about a third of the most common cancers could be prevented by following a healthy diet, being physically active and maintaining a healthy weight.

So not only will taking part in the Virgin London Marathon help you get into the kind of habits that can reduce your own cancer risk, but the money raised will help us continue to fund our research and education programmes on cancer prevention.

If you are interested in running for us, visit www.wcrf-uk.org/events or call 0207 343 4200.

Natalie Tarrant, Events Manager, World Cancer Research Fund

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Popular village pub steeped in history

■ The Walnut Tree

THE Walnut Tree in Aldington was built during the reign of King Richard II (1377-1399) and has one of the most colourful histories of any pub around.

Now it is a popular village inn with excellent food and drink on offer and it is open for business while improvements are being made – including a lowered ceiling and extra beams to keep up its smuggling days ambience.

The pub started life as just a timber-framed hut with a thatched roof, but by the 17th century, ale was being brewed on the premises.

During the Napoleonic Wars the village was the stronghold of the Aldington Gang – ruthless smugglers who roamed the nearby Romney Marsh area.

In November a special birthday party will be held to celebrate the landlord and landlady's eight years in the pub. No date has yet been finalised but a phone call to the pub or a visit to the website will tell customers as soon as it is known.

With the approach of winter, the Smugglers Treasure Chest is back on the menu. This consists of specially-baked bread made by Filmers Bakery in the shape of a chest which is hollowed out and filled with stew. For



details of what the exact fillings are every week, customers can refer to the pub website.

A pre-Christmas menu is also available from November 1 to December 22, with two courses for £12.95 or three for £14.95.

The Christmas menu is £35.00 for two and £39.95 for three with children eating for £19.95.

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Starter: Grilled sardines, served on a bed of roasted lemons.
Main course: Trout grilled with a sauce of roasted fennel and a dash of olive oil.
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Telephone number: 01303 850962

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Starter: Garlic mushrooms topped with onion and Stilton cheese.
Main course: Brie and cherry tomato tart
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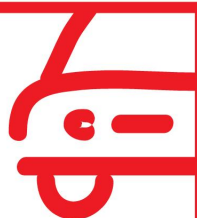
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yourleisure

Dancing to a new tune

Last year's Strictly champion Alesha Dixon has seen an upturn in her career since she won TV audiences' hearts

ALESHA DIXON

Friday, November 6
Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone



CHAMPION dancer Alesha Dixon returns to the stage next week to perform for fans in Kent.

Since winning BBC's Strictly Come Dancing in 2007, Dixon has become a national sweetheart and her pop career has soared.

This year she was invited to return to the show as a judge, replacing Arlene Phillips on the panel, alongside Len Goodman, Bruno Tonioli and Craig Revel Horwood. Now a staple part of Saturday night television, Dixon, 31, is back on the road to entertain fans with her music.

Born in Hertfordshire, Dixon's early ambition was to become a PE teacher and she had been due to study at the sport-intensive Loughborough University.

But one fateful day she embarked on a train journey that would change her life – after being approached twice by music industry professionals who wanted to know if she could sing, Dixon decided to investigate a new career.

While taking dance lessons, she met Sabrina Washington, who joined her in the line-up of Mis-Teeq, an R&B girl group who would take the charts by storm in the early 2000s with hits such as Why?, All I Want, B With Me and Scandalous. The group disbanded in 2005 and Dixon achieved moderate success in the early stages of her solo career.

Dixon experienced a personal low when she discovered that her husband, MC Harvey of So Solid Crew, had been having an affair with Popstars The Rivals star Javine Hylton.

Combined with professional worries, this led to Dixon suffering from depression for several weeks before music turned her life around once again.

When she was asked to compete in Strictly Come Dancing in 2007, she amazed viewers with her warm personality and natural flair on the



dance-floor. Dixon was reportedly nervous about taking part in the show but, along with professional partner Matthew Cutler, she wowed audiences and the notoriously hard-to-please judges with her sizzling salsa and riotous rumba.

Her singing career also picked up

pace and she achieved two top-five singles with The Boy Does Nothing and Breathe Slow, while her album, The Alesha Show, went platinum this summer with sales of more than 300,000 copies.

To book tickets, call 0844 847 1776 or visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.



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HALLOWEEN FUN AND FEAR

Until Saturday, October 31
Rare Breeds Centre, Woodchurch

VISITORS will find plenty of Halloween Fun and Fear at the Rare Breeds Centre with delicious scares for all ages.

Now in its fourth year, the popular event has fun for young children during the day and plenty of scares for the young at heart at night.

Little witches, vampires and monsters will need to dress up for the fancy dress pig race, while the Terror Trailer Ride takes visitors on an unforgettable journey.

There are lots of creepy characters in the Halloween Pantomime, but only the bravest souls will dare to enter the Boo Tunnel or explore the Forbidden Forest Trails. Lots more horrors are on offer during half-term, so steel yourself for some shocks and head down to the Rare Breed Centre.



No unaccompanied groups of youths will be admitted to this family event.

Visitors should dress appropriately for the weather and bring a torch for the evening events.

Day Time Fun runs from 10.30am to 4pm and Night Time Fun and Fear can be experienced between 6pm and 10pm.

For more information visit www.rarebreeds.org.uk.

PAUL CARRACK

Wednesday, November 4
Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone



AS the voice of Ace, Squeeze and Mike & the Mechanics, Paul Carrack melted music fans with his soulful tone.

He is touring the country to promote his latest album, I Know That Name, which has had lots of exposure on BBC Radio 2.

The single, I Don't Want to Hear Any More, features Eagles' Don Henley and Timothy B Schmit on backing vocals.

The song has also been recorded and released as a single by The Eagles.

Carrack grew up in Sheffield and joined his first band, the progressive rock outfit Warm Dust, in the early 70s.

After joining forces with the band's bassist, Tex Comer, to form Ace, he scored a massive hit with



How Long and they released three albums before Carrack moved on to become the keyboard player with Roxy Music.

More successful stints with Squeeze and Mike & the Mechanics followed, but Carrack has also proved

himself to be a formidable solo artist.

The concert starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £26.50.

Book online at www.leascliffhall.org.uk or call the box office on 0844 847 1776.

HALLOWEEN AT KENT LIFE

Until Sunday, November 1
Kent Life, Maidstone

ENJOY a spooktacular Halloween steeped in history as Kent Life gets into the spirit of half-term.

There are activities taking place throughout the week, including ferret racing, animal dressing up and the nationwide Big Draw competition.

Kent Life will be offering a prize for the best picture of their friendly residents, who could be a little bit freaky too, so children should start perfecting their spooky sheep or ghoulish goats to be in with a chance of winning.

On Saturday there will be a special Halloween event in which young trick-or-treaters can knock on the doors of Kent Life's period



houses and meeting the past residents who lived in them over the last 150 years.

Watch the local witches casting their spells on the green, listen to spine-tingling storytelling in the village hall or, if you are feeling really courageous, enter the

terrifying Tunnel of Doom.

The hog roast is sure to restore the spirits, but visitors must watch out for all the ghosts that might be lurking in the shadows.

For details go online at www.kentlife.org.uk or call 01622 763936.

ASHFORD LEISURE

Castle's ghosts come alive at story-telling

LEARN about the ghostly past of Sissinghurst Castle Garden when the attraction hosts a story-telling event.

Visitors will hear all about the spooky side of the National Trust attraction on Friday. The event, which is suitable for all ages, runs from 11am to 3pm. Meet outside the ticket office. For more information call 01580 710700 or visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk.

Are you brave enough to tour house in dark?

MORE spooky stories can be heard at Smallhythe Place in Tenterden on Saturday.

Take a guided tour of the house in the dark, with the prospect of a creepy encounter. Halloween tours start at 7pm and 8pm and booking is essential.

Admission costs £6 for adults and £3 for children. To book call 01580 762334. Details at www.nationaltrust.org.uk.

Group pays tribute to mod and ska Heroes

LEADING tribute band Heroes will celebrate the best of new wave, mod and ska music this week.

The band will play hits by The Jam, The Clash, Blondie, Billy Idol and more at the William Harvey Inn in Church Road, Willesborough, on Thursday.

For information about the band go to www.heroesnew.com. Call the pub on 01233 622758 for details of the venue.

Henry brings his band for night of classic rock

FANS of classic rock and indie music should head down to the George Hotel this weekend for some great live tunes.

Henry's Rock Band will be perform at the pub in High Street, Ashford, on Saturday. Find out more about them and hear some of their tracks on the website at www.myspace.com/henrysrockband.

For more information about the venue call the pub on 01233 625512.

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Radio One's 'Mr Marmite' on the decks at clubnight



HEADLINER: Zane Lowe covers the musical spectrum

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

KIWI DJ Zane Lowe will come to Maidstone next month to headline a Mixmag magazine clubnight.

The straggly-bearded MTV presenter and third most annoying Radio 1 host* will take to The Loft nightclub's decks on Saturday, November 7.

Mr Lowe is joined on the bill by fellow BBC staffers Andy George and Jaymo, as well as Mixmag DJs I Am One and Matt Cox.

A spokesman for organisers 666 said they were looking forward to welcoming the night's headliner to Maidstone.

"This will be Zane Lowe's second performance in Maidstone following his immense set at last year's Radio 1 Big Weekend, and as one of the most in-demand DJs on the planet, this is a tremendous coup for Kent's number one music club," he said.

"Anyone who listens to Zane's outstanding Radio 1 show knows he covers the entire musical spectrum, and we expect his DJ set to be no different as he headlines one of the biggest nights ever at The Loft.

"This event will sell out, so buy your ticket early to avoid missing out."

The line-up also includes big-hitting DJs such as Friction and Technicolour.

Support will also be provided by the likes of Twisted DJs, Mart Taylor, Unknown Error, Duncan K and Hijak Allstars.

The night runs from 9pm to 6am at the Maidstone town centre club.

Tickets cost £12 per person and can be bought at www.dontstayin.com



SUPPORT: BBC staffers Andy George and Jaymo

*Congratulations go to Mr Chris Moyles (first place) and Mr Tim Westwood (a close second).

The Beeb has a proud history in employing musical 'Mr Marmites'; the love 'em or loathe them types – the DJs who are to radio what Jeremy Kyle is to television.

And these three men together – Messrs Lowe, Moyles and Westwood – ensure my radio dial never reaches the dark, dark figures of 97 to 99 fm.

They are BBC employees, and therefore bound by the corporation's mandate of 'inform, educate and entertain'.

So why do we have an obnoxious northerner (Moyles) and his partner-in-crime 'comedy' Dave, a privately-educated, middle-class Anglican bishop's son turned hip-hop/grime know-it-all and drive-by shooting victim (Westwood) and a sickeningly sycophantic indie/dance DJ (Lowe) polluting our airwaves? Just my opinion, mind.

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- 5 The Suspects - 20/11 The Plough, Swalecliffe

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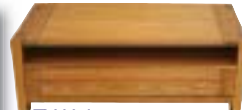
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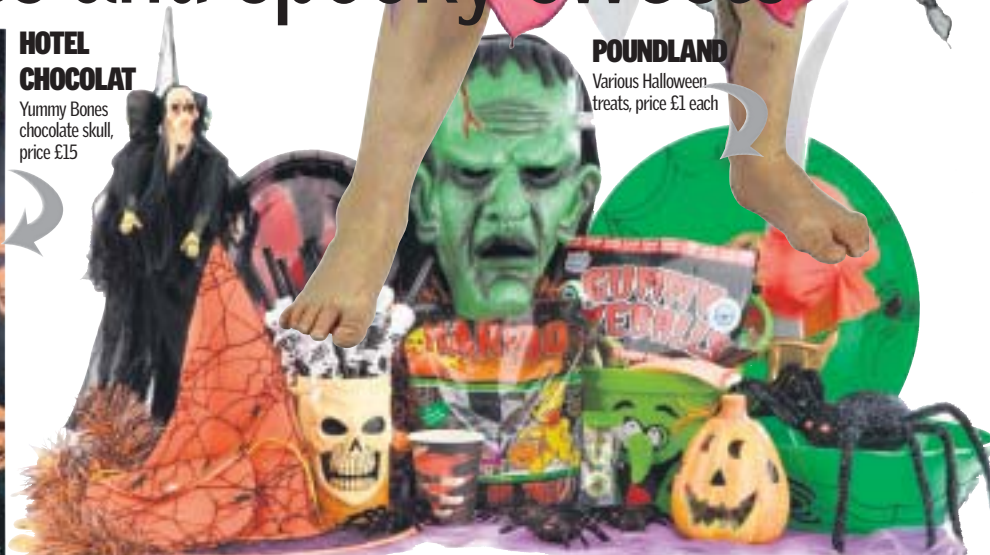
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ASHFORD SHOPPING

A right royal treat for book lovers in the City

DISCOVER books in an unusual setting at King's English, opposite The King's School, Canterbury.

Housed in a beautiful building with a crooked door, the shop has a number of rooms for events and reading groups.

It will stock the latest best-sellers alongside limited-edition box-sets of Dickens and Hardy, while also selling English goods with a historic theme.

King's English can be found in the Jacobean building in Palace Street.

Get the Lowe down on latest designer styles

GET ready for the party season in style with fashion designer Pearl Lowe's collection of dresses for Peacocks.

Modelled by her daughter, TV presenter Daisy Lowe, the range gives customers the chance to wear designer style at high-street prices.

The five vintage-inspired party dresses are available in sizes eight to 16 and are priced from £35 to £40.

The collection will be available from selected Peacocks stores from Monday.

Goods Shed selected for a Radio 4 award

A CANTERBURY daily market has been selected as a finalist in the BBC Radio 4 Food and Farming Awards 2009.

The Goods Shed will compete against businesses from Suffolk and Cardiff to win the title of Best Food Market.

Another Kent business, Dungeness fishmonger M&M Richardson, is a finalist in the Best Local Food Retailer category.

The panel of judges is chaired by chef Raymond Blanc and the award ceremony will take place in London, November 25.

Aussie lingerie at low prices at Outlet store

LADIES can buy superior lingerie at discount prices when Bendon Lingerie opens at Ashford Designer Outlet.

Popular down under for its products with up to 70 per cent off normal retail prices, Bendon Lingerie offers Australasian brands such as Elle Macpherson Intimates, Fayreform and the store's own range.

The company also offers a bra-fitting service. Bendon Lingerie opens on Saturday. You can find out more at www.ashforddesigneroutlet.com.

Don't be blind to trends, get your paws on these

TAKE a walk on the wild side and add a touch of danger to your living room with an animal-print blind.

Animal-print is a big trend both on the catwalks and in interior design, so give your home extra texture by getting your paws on a trendy monochrome, faux fur blind.

Products such as the Snow Leopard Roman blind are available online at www.web-blinds.com priced from £109.

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COUPLES RETREAT (15)



Love is a battlefield – and in Peter Billingsley's comedy, co-written by co-stars Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau, enemy lines are drawn on a beautiful remote Pacific Ocean island.

UP (U)



The latest masterpiece from Pixar is an airborne adventure in the company of a cranky old man and an excitable young boy. The opening 10 minutes are among the finest Pixar has ever crafted.

CIRQUE DU FREAK: THE VAMPIRE'S ASSISTANT (12A)



Paul Weitz directs and co-writes this spooky fantasy based on the popular series of books by Darren Shan. Chris Massoglia stars as the A-student who joins the undead in order to save his friend's life.

Piven finally gets chance to show us all The Goods

■ BY LISA WILLIAMS

JEREMY Piven must feel like the three-time bridesmaid who has finally made it down the aisle as a bride.

After all, the actor has carved out a sturdy career playing supporting roles in films such as Grosse Pointe Blanc, Old School and RocknRolla, and now, at the age of 44, he has finally landed a lead film role, as smooth-talking car salesman Don Ready in the comedy The Goods: Live Hard, Sell Hard.

"It was like sticking around the party for a little bit longer," Piven says about playing the lead. "It was a great thing for me, and I feel like I've been practising that for at least 20 years and so that's maybe why I have something to offer. Whether I'm carrying the movie or not, it doesn't matter, but to carve out that lead role is a great gift and I'd love to continue that."

The casting choice could be down, in part, to Piven having made a name for himself playing ruthless Hollywood agent Ari Gold in US TV series Entourage.

Some of Ari can even be seen in The Goods' Don Ready, who lives for work and will do anything and say anything to sell a car.

He leads a crack team of sales specialists who spend their lives on the road, travelling to whichever car showroom needs to rejuvenate its sales. But this isn't a film about sales techniques, rather about the friendship between Don's motley crew and his own personal journey as he begins to question his commitment-shy nomadic ways.

It is also packed with shocking jokes and one-liners. Don's team-mate Babs, played by Kathryn Jahn, falls in love with a ten-year-old, a Korean salesman gets beaten up by his colleagues in an apparent 'hate crime' and sever-



IN THE LEAD: Jeremy Piven stars in controversial role

al scenes are set in the salacious surroundings of a strip club.

Piven stands by the humour, despite complaints from some about its lack of taste.

"I really thought it was all very funny, I was not offended," he says earnestly.

But one line in particular, in which Babs declares what she would do if Don pulls off a hard sell (too rude to be repeated here), almost got Piven into trouble at a screening.

"I was watching the movie with Tony Romo, the American football player, and when he heard Babs's line, he choked," says Piven.

"He was eating chips and he was laughing so hard, he started choking. I thought I'd killed Tony Romo. Here it would be like killing David Beckham – it was a scary moment."

Piven's easy-going manner and gift for comic timing may be one of the reasons he has landed friends such as the aforementioned sportsman, as well as John Cusack, Dustin Hoffman

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and rapper Common.

But on the whole, Piven remains guarded about his private life, preferring to offer up a joke or an anecdote than to speak frankly about his personal affairs.

Is this a deliberate move?

"Yes, I think it is," Piven admits.

"If you parade your private life in public I think it robs you of your anonymity and I don't know how healthy that is.

"I'm just trying to figure out a way to be a decent person and a working actor."

That said, he is frank enough to admit that he is "single right now".

"I'm absolutely looking for someone – why not?" he adds, offering hope to the many who swoon at his swarthy good looks.

THE GOODS: LIVE HARD, SELL HARD

Certificate 15



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Jeremy, played by Robert Webb, is a far less agreeable character whose selfishness and workshy nature know no bounds, although his band-mate Super Hans makes him look like a saint.



All of this series, and the entire previous series, are available to watch on Channel 4's On Demand internet service if, like me, you didn't have the brain to tune in many years ago.

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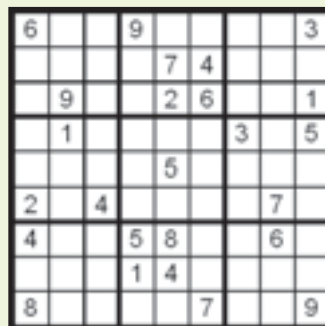
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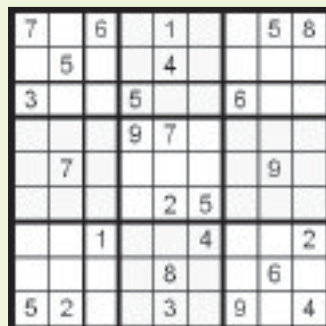
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EASY



MEDIUM



HARD



CRYPTIC CLUES

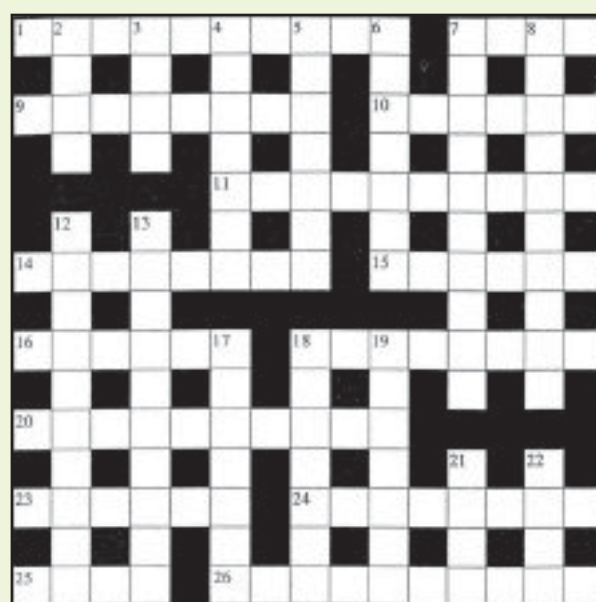
ACROSS

- 1 Penny entered cut that had been reduced at time of landing (10)
7 Leg-pull, short-cut after half-hour (4)
9 Ward for accident-prone child? (8)
10 In truth remarkable livery (6)
11 Active diminutive lady has house-plant (4,6)
14 Monthly? Imposingly (8)
15 Pulled US journalist (6)
16 Seaweed, pronouncedly icy, on fungus (6)
18 Go-between reached agencies' high point (8)
20 It costs the traveller nothing (4,6)
23 Bach and Elgar included another composer (6)
24 Bird's pale headgear (8)
25 Support one in pen (4)
26 Tourist who does not fall over at night? (3-7)

DOWN

- 2 A pet playing with fuel (4)
3 One weird flower (4)
4 A politician in shed having fish (7)
5 Body's losing head, sure to turn up in epic (7)
6 Something new found in cracker (7)
7 Level line soaring interminably (10)
8 Greatest ever depression, this depth has never been reached before (3-4,3)
12 Urgent, a jug ordered from lorry (10)
13 One of 28 parts of a week? (7-3)
17 The French youngster outside was discouraged (7)
18 Advance, create established routine (4,3)
19 It's more crazy having Dorothy on the level (7)
21 & 22 Eek! Speak about souvenir (8)

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QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Dachshund (7,3)
7 Brandish (4)
9 Register one's departure from work (5,3)
10 Stinging plant (6)
11 Speechless (10)
14 Splinted (anag.) (5,3)
15 Scanty (6)
16 Sir (6)
18 Parasol (8)
20 Whimsicality (10)
23 Senior journalist (6)
24 Taken into the body (8)
25 Reptile (abbrev.) (4)
26 Linger (5-5)

DOWN

- 2 Spindle (4)
3 Draw into the mouth (4)
4 Tynesider (7)
5 Slandered (7)
6 First OT book (7)
7 Flawless (10)
8 Old bicycle (10)
12 High kick in rugby (2-3-5)
13 Nationalistic (10)
17 Instructed (7)
18 Particular (7)
19 Bouquet (7)
21 Continent (4)
22 Zing (4)

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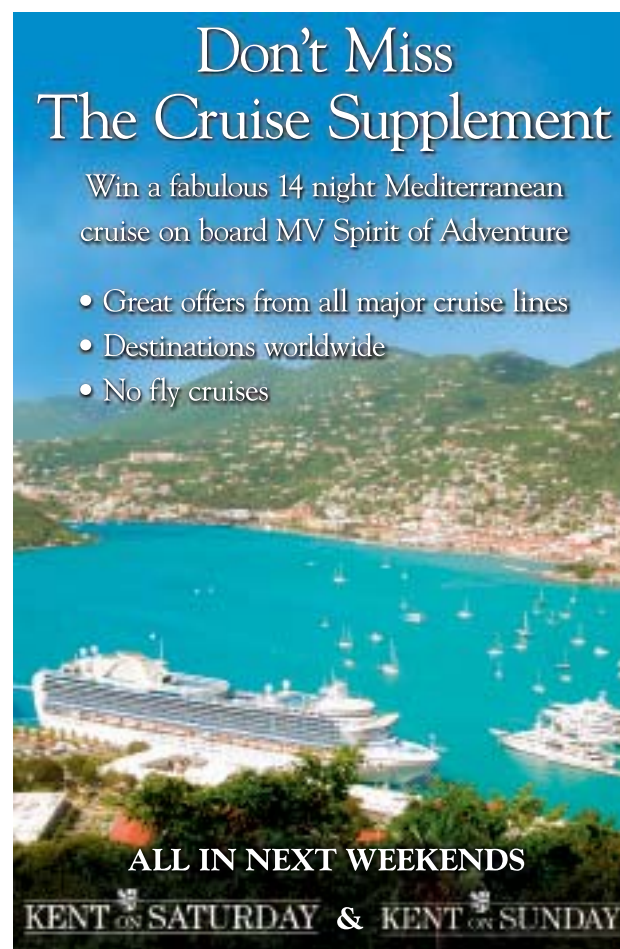


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ACROSS: 1 Blockbuster 9 Stolid 10 Routine 12 Railing 14 Nonagon 15 Junction box 16 Rub 17 Dip 19 Kangaroo-hop 22 Calends 23 Degrade 24 Ariadne 25 Sent in 26 Small change. DOWN: 2 Latvian 3 Cellist 4 Bud 5 Springboard 6 Equinox 7 Finger 8 Teeny-bopper 11 Prejudicial 13 Groundswell 18 Pelvis 19 Kingdom 20 Organza 21 Heading 25 Sic.

QUICK SOLUTION No111

22 Zeal. 17 Tutor 18 Special 19 Nosegay 21 Asia 8 Velocipede 12 Up-and-under 13 Jingoistic 6 Genes 7 Waterlight 5 Defamed 26 Dilly-dally. DOWN: 2 Alike 3 Suck 4 Quaintness 23 Editor 24 Ingested 25 Croc 15 Skippy 16 Knight 18 Sunshade 20 off 10 Nettle 11 Dumbstruck 14 Split end ACROSS: 11 Sausage dog 7 Wave 9 Clock

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website



Feeling bonnie about Edinburgh

■ BY CLAIRE WALKER

IN the relaxing surroundings of my room, it was easy to see why the five-star hotel is so popular with celebrities stopping off in Scotland's capital city.

The Scotsman is a short walk from Waverley Station, barely four-and-a-half hours by train from London, and close to the many landmarks of The Royal Mile. All the big names in fashion have a base here, including grand Harvey Nichols in St Andrew Square.

The Scotsman has followed Edinburgh's ethos: enhance the old and embrace the new by teaming traditional elegance with contemporary class to create an exclusive yet rather warm and welcoming environment.

The city is famed for its dramatic beauty, and our spacious suite afforded a captivating 180-degree view to the east, taking in the imposing outline of Calton Hill and the blue waters of the Firth of Forth in the distance.

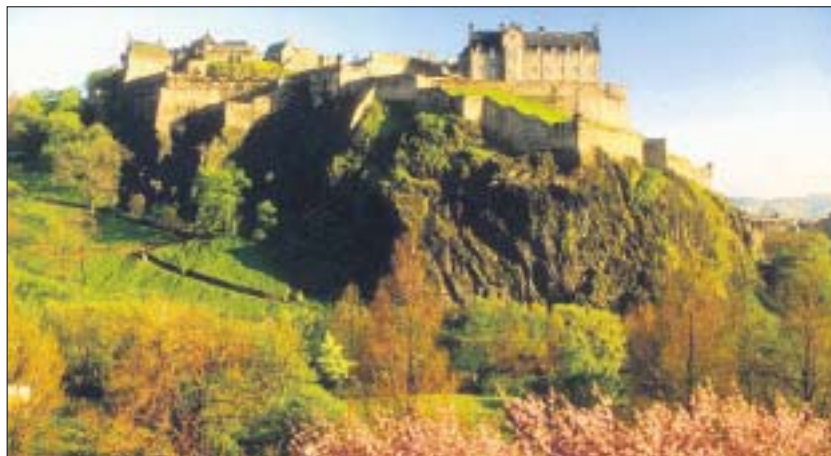
After a morning in the city I visited the spa for some well-deserved pampering.

The spa, like the hotel, is exclusive but not intimidating. I chose the Indocean body treatment, and despite sporting little more than paper pants, felt entirely relaxed in the warm and comforting treatment room.

Leaving the luxury lifestyle of the hotel might be a chore, but there are too many world-famous landmarks nearby to ignore.

Just a stone's throw away from the hotel is The Royal Mile, with Edinburgh Castle at the western end and the amazing Scottish Parliament building in the opposite direction, at the top end of Canongate.

Having stormed the castle on countless occasions as a child, I instead paid my first visit to



SCENE TO BELIEVE IT: Edinburgh is famed for its dramatic beauty and has lots to offer visitors all through the year

the High Street's second-most famous structure, St Giles Cathedral.

With its stunning architecture and famed crown spire, it's an impressive sight even for non-believers.

As I wandered through narrow closes and hidden courtyards I could imagine myself living in the days of legendary poet Robert Burns, infamous businessman/burglar Deacon Brodie and the tragically faithful Skye Terrier Greyfriars Bobby.

It wasn't long before the dreich Scottish weather prevailed of course. My sanctuary from the rain, for another memorable vista of Auld Reekie's iconic skyline, was the cocktail bar on the fourth floor of the city's Harvey Nichols store.

The summer months may be primetime for festival-goers, but for a luxury break with

plenty to do, Edinburgh has year-round appeal.

With children in tow, you must explore the Castle, for a unique insight into Scotland's history.

Free guided tours are recommended for first-time visitors, or you can simply wander around, losing yourself in the many winding corridors and turrets and taking in the spectacular views of the Firth of Forth as you stand atop the castle ramparts.

The walk up to the castle crosses the medieval Old Town, but the whole city is full of quirky little streets, jam-packed with independent shops and galleries.

Edinburgh also has The National Galleries of Scotland, an obvious choice for visiting art lovers, while fans of modern art find The Fruitmarket Gallery a big highlight.

FACT FILE: EDINBURGH

Time difference	0 (GMT)
Capital	of Scotland
Language	English
Population	800,000
Currency	Sterling
Religion	Christian

Travel Facts

Claire Walker was a guest of The Scotsman Hotel, which offers B&B from £140 per night. Reservations: 0131 556 5565 and reservations@thescotsmanhotel.co.uk. See www.theetoncollection.com for more details. Visit Scotland is promoting Edinburgh short breaks until November 30, starting at three nights for £99 per person. Full details at www.visitscotland.com/autumn. Enquiries: 0845 225 5121 and info@visitscotland.com.

This publicly-funded exhibition space houses world-class art by international artists and homegrown talent, in an easily-accessible and welcoming atmosphere – free of charge.

Those short on time can explore the city by open-top bus, but by far the best way to see it is on foot.

A hike up Arthur's Seat blows the cobwebs away, and the views from the top of this extinct volcano make the effort worthwhile.

Start your walk from beside Holyrood Palace and take the route over the Salisbury Crags before rewarding yourself with a well-earned rest at The Sheep's Heid Inn, famed for bar lunches, and its skittle alley.

In the well-to-do West End, search out Falko Konditorei, a German bakery which uses traditional handcrafted methods to create some of the best cakes in the city.

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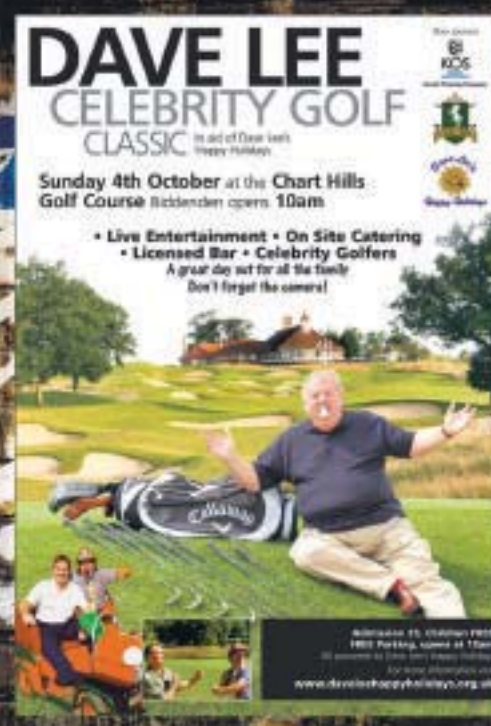
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PROPERTY NEWS

Developer's emphasis on picturesque plans

HILLREED Homes is proud to have what it calls "picturesque policy" for street scenes in new developments that highlight the landscape.

An example of the company's design policy can be seen at Highland Park, Green Fields Lane, Ashford.

This is a large development offering a wide range of homes, several of which are built on a gentle hillside so many owners benefit from spectacular views across the surrounding area.

"Providing homes in pleasant settings is part of Hillreed Home's policy," said marketing manager Jo Richards.

A spokesman for the company added: "The high-speed train is offering tremendous potential to open up the region, providing super-fast commuting to central London.

"The Channel Tunnel is equally accessible, with shops aplenty in Ashford backed up by easy-to-reach Maidstone.

"This is the area in which to invest as Government money is pumped into this highly desirable south-eastern part of the UK."

Buy-to-let market shows it's back in the groove

THE property slump which saw buy-to-let mortgages drop out of the market is now in a healthier state and they are coming back.

Hopes are growing that lenders may soon be starting to offer buy-to-let loans as demand for rental properties holds up.

Moneysupermarket.com reports the number of enquiries about buy-to-let mortgages has risen by almost 50 per cent in the last year.

However, there are now 70 per cent fewer products on the market.

Hannah Mercedes-Shenfield, at moneysupermarket, said: "With significantly fewer products left on the market and high interest rates attached to those available we could potentially have a ticking buy-to-let timebomb on our hands – the need for rental housing is increasing, but there may not be enough landlords to cater for this demand."

There is good news to report despite downturn

■ BY NICK AMES

THE Kent property market recorded an encouraging performance during 2008/09 despite the downturn, according to the latest Kent Property Market Report.

The report, launched to an audience of almost 200 property professionals at Ashford International Hotel, reveals that despite the challenging economic climate, office rental values in the county remained stable, growing by 0.4 per cent in comparison with the UK average, which fell by 3.8 per cent.

Kent Property Market Report, written by Kent County Council and property experts Cluttons LLP, is produced by investment promotion agency Locate in Kent.

It reviews property performance and major deals in Kent in the financial year April 2008 to March 2009 and provides insight into residential, retail and regeneration programmes and, for the first time, the rural property market.

Ashford is already benefiting from Southeastern's preview high-speed rail services, meaning journeys from Ashford International Station into London take only 37 minutes.

The launch of full services in December is likely to fuel further investment and growth in the town, pointing towards a positive and encouraging economic outlook.

Paul Carter, leader of KCC, said: "This report shows that Kent is resilient and is coming out of this recession fighting. Kent has fared well in comparison to the rest of the UK. At KCC we see regeneration as a major responsibility.

"We will continue to invest in roads, schools and major regeneration schemes such as those in Ashford.

"And as a county we must take full advantage of the opportunities presented by the arrival of high-speed rail services to Kent."

Ashford's Growth Area development strategy is making good progress, which includes planning approval for Victoria Way, a proposed



ENCOURAGING: The county has fared well over 2008/09 according to the latest Kent Property Market Report

new road that will improve access to the station and the town centre. The variety of regeneration projects in the town show encouraging signs for the future and included the mixed-use development Elwick Place, a new commercial office quarter near the train station and the new Herald building at Eureka Park.

Alison Owen, partner at Cluttons LLP, said: "Property developers have proved flexible this year in response to demand and are focusing efforts on smaller-unit schemes offering shorter-term lettings.

"Credit constraints are continuing to have an effect on both the residential and commercial property markets; however, the report shows that there continues to be an excellent supply of office space at affordable prices.

"Rural property assets have witnessed a real

resurgence in the last year, with investors looking for steady returns."

Paul Wookey, chief executive of Locate in Kent, said: "During the year, Locate in Kent recorded 246 new projects, representing an increase on last year, further proving that interest in Kent from UK and international investors remains strong.

"We will continue to aggressively target high-growth and high-value sectors, including financial and business services, software infrastructure technologies, life sciences and environmental technologies.

"We want to tap into the UK government's growth ambitions and Kent has a key role to play in helping the UK reach its full potential as a world class leader in environmental technologies."

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Ashford £97,000

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Ashford £125,000

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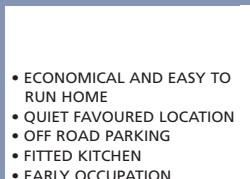
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You can choose to text the member's 6-digit box number followed by a space, then your message (max of 160 characters) and send to **82250** e.g. 654321 Hi my name is... Standard network rates apply to send messages. Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message.

BROWSE and listen line:
0906 753 3093

(Calls cost 75p/min; contact your service provider for details)

HELP required with service?
0871 220 9205

(Live assistance, 2pm-5.30pm. Mon to Fri | Email: louise@gwave.co.uk | Calls cost 10p/min; contact your service provider for details)



WOMEN seeking men

MY EVERYTHING Ashford based, bubbly and fun single mum, 23yr old, curvy build, brunette, likes reading and socialising. WLTm like minded male. Box 457472 **1**

MATCH OF THE DAY! Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 **1**

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT... Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105 **1**

IS ANYONE OUT THERE? 31yr old easygoing, independent female, WLTm cuddly fella to enjoy the finer things in life with, leading to LTR with the right person. Box 879391 **1**

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 **1**

A FAIRYTALE ENDING! Princess Fiona, 34, looking to meet her Shrek, 5ft8, short brown/blonde hair, blue eyes, large build, seeks romantic caring guy for friendship, maybe more! Box 877957 **1**

HAPPY DAYS! Attractive, fun-loving female, 35, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTm intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **1**

FEAST YOUR EYES ON ME... Hello I'm Andrea, 35, petite 5ft3, shoulder length curly hair, enjoys eating out, cinema and I'm looking for friendship and possible long term relationship. Box 453036 **1**

SEALED WITH A KISS Petite lady, 36, long hair, blue eyes, single mum, enjoys holidays, wine and dining, laughing, seeks loyal, loving man for friendship and more. Box 453079 **1**

STARRY NIGHTS Hello I'm Sarah, single mum from Kent, brown hair enjoy swimming nights in/out looking for a caring man to share the best things in life. Box 872873 **1**

WHAT YOU SEE... Young looking 36 year old, 5ft4, brown eyes, slim, one daughter, hard working, very sincere and caring, genuine, GSOH, seeks similar male 33-43. Rochester. Box 460307 **1**

HISTORIC MEETING? Mum of three, 36, long mousy hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 450493 **1**

GALLOP AHEAD! Maidstone-based woman, 36, 5ft5, slim build, blue eyes, I'm caring, honest and have 4 children, enjoys drives and horse riding, and WLTm honest, reliable man. Box 451311 **1**

BE MINE Honest and caring woman, 36, 5ft5, slim build, blue eyes, I'm caring, honest and have 4 children, enjoys drives and horse riding. Maidstone. Box 456159 **1**

LOVE TO LOVE YOU Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium/large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 **1**

JUST ONE QUESTION... A warm, generous, attractive and caring lady, 40, seeks soulmate who will love, respect and cherish her. What's taking you so long? Box 873458 **1**

CUTE AS CAN BE Cute single mum of four, 38, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983 **1**

YOU CAN'T RESIST... Fun loving intelligent lady, 39, blonde, attractive, GSOH, lots of energy, one daughter, now looking for that special man to share life with. Tonbridge. Box 459991 **1**

A SOUL MATE Black Christian girl, 39, likes country music, loving, considerate, kind and caring, looking for a like-minded man, 32-50, with a pretty inside. Box 453066 **1**

WANNA RIDE WITH YOU Curvaceous lady, 40, 5ft8, long curly hair, into motorbikes!! Single mum, seeks fun-loving bike fan for rides into the sunset. Eastbourne. Box 458787 **1**

YOUNG-AT-HEART Attractive 39yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun, man for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **1**

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old, petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatre, music and eating out, WLTm a professional, loving and tactile male for a relationship. Box 442551 **1**

QUICK, EASY WAY TO VIEW PHOTOS! Just enter the six-digit Box number, followed by a space, then PHOTO and send to 82250

Your phone must be WAP-enabled - £1.50 per photo

ADDING PHOTOS! Email: Send your photo and Member Number to: Louise@gwave.co.uk

Mobile: Register your number with us & send by SMS to 07786 203 777

Enter P2P as subject. MMS - network charges apply.

JOINED AT THE HIP Sociable petite girl with great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for fun guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434 **1**

TLC ON OFFER Bubbly, happy, outgoing 41yr old female, enjoying life to the full, like writing, walking, watching DVDs, WLTm like-minded, happy-go-lucky, clean male for friendship and more. Box 459271 **1**

PRETTY IN PINK Feminine lady, 40, no children some pets, like pink, pop music, astrology, dining out, dancing and singing, collectibles, seeking a man with a nice soh. Box 460397 **1**

BETWEEN US Asian lady, 41, single, no ties, outgoing, fun-loving, professional, looking for white male, genuine, professional and solvent. Box 451900 **1**

FOR A RELATIONSHIP? Shy but confident-one known female, a mum, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming; seeks gent with similar interests to find hopeful love with. Box 452106 **1**

LOVE IS ALL AROUND Happy-go-lucky, bubbly Blonde, 42, blue eyes, hard-working, love outings, looking for a nice, genuine guy for relationship. Bromley Box 454517 **1**

HELLO EVERYONE! Single dog-owner, 42, fun-loving, kind and loyal, likes meals out, weekends away, country walks, WLTm a non-smoking guy to share it all with. Seaford Box 454569 **1**

HAPPY TIMES ARE HERE TO STAY Single mum, 42, 5ft6, likes fun nights out, cinema, meals out, cuddles and kisses, looking for a fun-loving gent to share happy times with. Ashford Box 459692 **1**

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU Audrey here, I live in Seaford, and WLTm caring man. I'm fun loving, loyal, honest, adventurous, and love animals, cooking, music, film, countryside. Box 872159 **1**

LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5ft10, likes bowling, eating in/out etc, looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gosh for friendship/relationship. Box 450348 **1**

A CHANCE FOR ROMANCE Energetic 43yr old female, 5'9", short dark hair/blue eyes, slim, have grown up daughter, love the outdoors, cooking, good food, music, days out, country walks...Medway. Box 456868 **1**

TALL ORDER Curvy lady, 5ft9, 43yrs old, blonde hair/green eyes, I live in Deal in Kent, I'm down-to-earth and like being out and about. Box 456020 **1**

I SHOULD BE SO LUCKY Hello, I'm Karen, 42, dark brown hair, medium build, gosh, looking for a man with no issues and gosh who can enjoy life with me. Box 452204 **1**

ACTIVE TYPE Lively, energetic fun loving mum, 42, 5ft3, petite, pretty, blonde/brown hair, hazel eyes, WLTm honest, fun, mixed race/black gent, for lasting relationship. Box 451819 **1**

HOW YOU DOING? Attractive, curvy single mum, 44, kind, genuine, loyal and loving, seeking a man with similar qualities to share my life with. St Leonards-on-Sea. Box 459128 **1**

SWEET AS HONEY Petite, slim, honey-blond lady, 5'4" age 44, enjoys the seaside and horse-racing, looking for a dark-haired, genuine, honest and professional man, 25-50 in Brighton. Box 458485 **1**

LOVE TO MEET YOU Kind woman, 42, outgoing, happy-go-lucky, sometimes shy, likes gardening, socialising, travel, walks, looking for happy, fun fella. Aylesford Box 428464 **1**

STARTING OVER Divorced 45yr old cuddly woman, brown eyes/hair, likes swimming, animals, cinema, soaps, the beach. WLTm a honest, non-smoking man for friendship, maybe more. Ashford Box 878141 **1**

RECIPES FOR ROMANCE GSOH, honest, romantic and reliable woman, 45, dark blonde hair/blue eyes, WLTm honest and reliable man, 40-55, likes reading, cooking, walks, theatre, animals. Box 457521 **1**

TOO MUCH TO ASK? Divorced lady, 45, young looking, blonde, 5ft5. I'm well travelled and have many interests. WLTm black or mixed race, loving man for LTR. Chatham. Box 459246 **1**

GENUINE REPLIES ONLY Bubbly female, 44, brunette, n/s, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 458595 **1**

MY PRINCE? Not-just-for-xmas dog lover, into sports, walks, motorbikes, GSOH, female, 47, pretty, long dark hair, looking for knight in shining armour! East Sussex area. Box 872961 **1**

ETERNALLY YOURS Easygoing woman, likes most things in life; country walks, films, cinema, cooking. I'm 46, 5ft2, medium build, WLTm genuine, happy guy, easygoing and fun. Box 445635 **1**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME? Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 **1**

BE MY FRIEND AND LOVER Bubbly, caring lady, 47, divorced with 2 teenagers, dark hair, medium build, into cooking, driving, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal guy. Box 425952 **1**

TWO LOVELY LADIES UP FOR GRABS! Two bubbly divorced ladies, 48 and 50, looking for two normal divorced guys, early 30s, for happy times and romance. East Sussex Box 456876 **1**

ARE YOU LOVING AND CARING? Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5ft5, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating, out, cosy nights, good company. Box 434089 **1**

INTO THE SUNSET Romantic lady, 50, 5'5" blue eyes brown hair, likes to travel, site see, go out, seeking a special man in my life. Dover. Box 460287 **1**

JUST IMAGINE Petite, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTm genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **1**

CARING & PROFESSIONAL Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 471100 **1**

NOTHING VENTURED... Hi there, I'm a Sussex based, 51yr old woman, I love eating out, historical sites etc, looking for kind gent for friendship, evenings out, maybe more. Box 459181 **1**

LOVELY BUBBLY Short 51yr old professional lady, likes history, films and reading, seeking a genuine gent, 45-58, with gosh to enjoy evenings out, stimulating conversations and fun. Box 452311 **1**

FUNNY GIRL Petite, blonde female, 51, GSOH, likes music, books, films, cooking, looking for romantic soul-mate 45-55 for TLC. Kent. Box 835181 **1**

COMPANIONSHIP, LAUGHTER, HOPEFULLY MORE Curvy & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTm similar loving male. Box 443642 **1**

DO YOU HAVE THE BRAINS & THE LOOKS?! Professional, attractive female, 54, enjoys the countryside, gardening, keeping fit, reading and live music; looking to meet an attractive and intelligent man for a relationship. Box 448863 **1**

HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO Londoner new to the area, 57, 5ft5, slim attractive blonde, seeking a man for serious relationship and lasting happiness. Box 449587 **1**

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS! Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad, seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795 **1**

ANIMAL LOVER Attractive lady, non-smoker, aged 57, GSOH, enjoys eating in/out, seeing friends, theatre, animals, and WLTm similar, non-smoking male. Box 452498 **1**

TIME TO LOVE Slim and active woman, 57, 5ft2, brown hair/green eyes, likes walking, riding, PO, animals, seeking a non-smoking genuine gent for a meaningful relationship. Rochester. Box 456773 **1**

MAKE A NEW FRIEND Fun-loving lady, 58, 5ft4, dark hair, single mum! Likes countryside walks, reading, cooking and cosy nights in, seeks similar male. Folkestone. Box 460420 **1**

DIVORCED Loving, kind, honest female, 58, 5ft6, interests include the countryside, old pubs, music, reading and baking, looking for that special someone to enjoy life with. Box 878455 **1**

WALKS ALONG THE COAST Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622 **1**

MUSIC TO MY EARS Hi my name's Christine, 59, 5'9", slim build, wear glasses, likes live music, theatre, playing darts, looking for slim build male, for friendship, possible more. Box 413914 **1**

DREAMS OF YOU Genuine, caring lady, late 50s, slim & young looking, looking for a loyal, considerate, N/S male for long term relationship. Box 448566 **1**

BRIGHTENING UP Cuddly lady, 61, 5ft5, blonde, likes swimming, country pubs, cinema and much more. WLTm tallish single man to hopefully brighten each others lives. Box 870214 **1**

SIMPLE PLEASURES Hi there, I'm a 61yr old lady, blonde hair/green eyes, medium build. I love dancing, walking by the sea and WLTm like minded gent. Box 459467 **1**

LOVE ME DO Loving and caring lady, 63, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, likes most things in life, looking for a caring and considerate male for friendship, hopefully a LTR. Margate. Box 460082 **1**

SOMEbody TO LAUGH WITH... Loving lady looking for companionship, 63, 5ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382 **1**

HAPPILY EVER AFTER Happy-go-lucky attractive female, 65, petite, likes gardening, swimming and walking, looking for a honest and reliable man to share life with. Ashford Box 454370 **1**

MEANT TO MEET... Grounded lady of 73, looking for companionship with a similar gentleman who wants to share and enjoy all of life's pleasures. Box 453141 **1**

Women seeking women

A LITTLE AFFECTION Intelligent, cheeky, emotional female, 44, WLTm similar woman, 35-65, for walks, museum/art trips, wine/dining, theatre, good conversation & friendship first, maybe more. Pref Eastbourne area. Box 873058 **1**

HOPE YOU'RE OUT THERE? Sincere female, 49, likes football, animals, country pursuits, seeks feminine woman for friendship, maybe more. Gillingham. Box 456805 **1**

TABLE FOR 2? Homely type woman, 50, looking for a similar female. I'm 5ft5, salt & pepper hair, I'm honest and trustworthy and looking for the same. Hastings. Box 455737 **1**

VOLUPTUOUS LADY Curvy lady, 57, very loving and graceful, enjoy the beach, music, walking, theatre, and reading, looking for a lady 50-70. Box 458935 **1**

TRUE LOVE Fit and good-looking male, 44, 5ft8, dark hair/eyes, own house, honest and reliable, looking for a woman to find true love with. Brighton. Box 455727 **1**

WISHFULLY YOURS Warm hearted male, 44, 6ft, blond, blue eyes, charity support worker, enjoys keeping fit, cinema, football, driving, looking for a sincere woman for ltr. Box 454415 **1**

TO BUILD A RELATIONSHIP Hard-working, true gent, 44, reliable, trusting, loving, genuine, enjoys sports, cars, socialising, music, films, seeks oriental or black love of his life. Box 451917 **1**

ALL NIGHT LONG I'm 44, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6, loves the cinema and beach walks, music, nights in and out, cooking, seeking female 35-52 for promising relationship. Box 449992 **1**

INTRODUCE US Hi there! I'm a painter/decorator, and I enjoy doing things for charity, and seeing the lads. I'm male, 43, blond hair/blue eyes, slim build, 4 children. Box 451519 **1**

LONG-TERM THING Caring, romantic, loyal guy, 45, 5ft11, slim/medium build, brown hair and blue eyes, gosh, WLTm lady/single mum 25-40, slim/medium build. Hastings. Box 451334 **1**

GENUINE AND RELIABLE 44yr old single man, 5ft11, slim, brown hair/eyes, likes nights out/days in, looking for a mature curvy female for friendship, good hopes, hopefully something lasting. Box 452924 **1**

OFFER ME YOUR LOVE Easygoing male, 45, young looking, 6'4", tall, green eyes, short fair hair, Average build, WLTm like-minded lady, 30-48, for friendship and maybe more. Box 875799 **1**

ALONG THE SHORE Considerate, reliable guy, 44, slim build, 5ft11, likes days out, the coast, nights in, pubs. WLTm kind female, 30-52, for friendship, leading to LTR. Box 448919 **1**

AN ATTRACTIVE OFFER Handsome, tall male, 38, 6'4", looking for a young lady to slowly re-discover the finer things in life. Box 454805 **1**

CHEER ME UP 39yr old male, GSOH, like the normal things in life, WLTm a female for fun and possible relationship. Box 454878 **1**

SAIL AWAY WITH ME Good looking smart male, 39, 5ft9, dark hair and blue eyes, OHAC, no dependents, seeking similar girl to enjoy a trip on a boat...Sittingbourne. Box 460323 **1**

GOSH YOU'RE LUCKY Stocky, 5ft7, 39, male, green-blue eyes, short hair, Virgo, GSOH, love swimming, walks on beaches, days out, seeking similar female, for loving times. Box 455764 **1**

A MAN OF FEW WORDS, BUT MUCH LOVE Hi, 40yr old fun-loving male, looking to meet slim fun-loving female, looks unimportant, for hopeful LTR. Many hobbies and interests! Box 450819 **1**

BEING WITH YOU I'm an honest, easygoing, young-looking, fit male, 40s, 5ft9, love live music, eating out, theatre, cinema and pubs, seeking a like-minded female. Box 893760 **1**

PUT THAT SPARK BACK INTO MY LIFE Virgo male, 40, 5ft7, stocky build, kind, loving, fine guy, enjoys the cinema, meals out, walks on beaches, WLTm like-minded person to be my girl. Box 446212 **1**

HIYA I'm a cute and laid-back guy, 41, 5ft8, short hair, athletic, very tactile, loving and spontaneous, likes shopping, travelling, eating in/out, hate football! Brighton. Box 450614 **1**

EVERYBODY'S FEELING HOT, HOT, HOT Exotic mixed race male, 42, 5'10", likes calypso, limbo dancing, seeks irresistible female from Swale, Medway for romantic sunsets. Box 868677 **1**

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MOTORS NEWS



Dramatic new look for sixth generation Astra

VAUXHALL'S most dramatic Astra yet arrives in showrooms for December.

Styling echoing that of the Insignia launched earlier in 2009, is just part of the appeal. The sixth generation Astra also has a quality interior and even more class than its capable predecessor.

There is a revamped engine line-up including two feisty low capacity turbocharged petrol engines – more evidence of a fight back against diesel. A five-door Astra arrives first with a three-door and estate to follow.



Landie' proves to be a classic readers' pin-up

BRITISH classic, the Land Rover Defender, topped a readers' poll by What Car?

The magazine's editor Steve Fowler said: "The Land Rover Defender has always had a devoted following. It's far from the most sophisticated car on the road, but its no-nonsense approach and longevity are what our readers like most about it."

Other winners in the 2009 Reader Awards included: Fiat 500 (supermini), Jaguar XJ (executive/luxury), Audi A5 (coupé) and Mazda MX-5 (open-top).



Remote control driving is not such a bad idea

CARS that drive themselves can become reality within ten years, says a European project called SARTRE (Safe Road Trains for the Environment).

This technology alliance, led by UK automotive developer Ricardo and including Volvo Cars, believes road trains – particularly on motorways – can speed traffic flow and journey times, boost driver comfort and reduce accidents, fuel consumption and CO2 emissions with much of the technology already available.



RETRO CLASSIC: The stunning new-look Jaguar XF echoes the brand's old style 'grace and pace' and comes complete with the company's most powerful diesel engine so far

End of Groundhog Day nightmare for Jaguar

JAGUAR has broken free from an automotive Groundhog Day of years re-creating the styling of its 60s heyday.

Its middleweight XF (from £33,200) model re-wrote the style book last year – soon to be joined by an equally radical XJ.

It announced that Jaguar was ready to innovate again and the XF just got better too with the new 272bhp V6 3.0-litre S twin-turbodiesel (from £36,900) version tested here – Jaguar's most powerful diesel so far.

It might have escaped trad Jag styling, but the stunning new look echoes the brand's old style 'grace and pace' advertising.

The engine feels lively yet sensible too and shows how far diesel engines have come lately; there is a pleasing resonance more like a gutsy petrol unit and a smooth power delivery.

Most muscle comes from the larger turbo, with the smaller kicking in at 2,800rpm, enabling the car to be both Jaguar and pussy cat.

It responds with dismissive ease when called to overtake, whether the seamless six-speed auto gearbox is in standard or sport mode.

ROAD TEST JAGUAR XF

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

The latter tightens up throttle and steering response and is the perfect partner to manual selection via steering wheel paddles, allowing you to exploit the rear driven chassis' sure-footedness beneath a typically well-sorted ride quality.

But it is tempting to just idle around knowing the Jag can dash to 60mph in under six seconds yet, driven normally, average around 40mpg with CO2 emissions of 179g/km or road tax Band I (£175/yr) – impressive for a rapid and relatively big car.

A junior version of the same engine developing 237bhp rather than 271bhp is even more frugal yet still outperforms the 3.0-litre V6 petrol XF, which is only marginally cheaper – who is going to buy that now?

If that heresy rattles G 'n' T's down at the Jaguar gentlemen's club, then the XF interior should send the ice cubes into orbit.

It is emphatically not old style-style 'clubby' Jaguar. The use of wood is understated and the leather wears minimal stitching while the detail is techno. The control set all works beautifully and there is even a big boot and folding rear seat backs for longer loads – a far cry from the pinched back ends of those Groundhog Days.



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all makes used

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CITROEN

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI 600Kw First Diesel, 574749256, pas, drivers airbag, service indicator, immobiliser, solid paint, front head restraints, white, 51 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C2, 1.1i COOL 3dr Hatch Sp Eds, gf57uzf, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, passenger airbag, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, steel wheels, isofix child seat anchor points, front head restraints, service indicator, body coloured bumpers, cloth seat trim, rear headrests, audio remote control, folding rear seats, rear wiper, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, blue, 50000 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C3, SX, yr55hkt, immobiliser, central locking, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, abs, cd player, electric mirrors, radio, red, 14000 miles, £5495, Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

RELAY, 2.2 HDi H1 Van 1000ps 30 L1 Diesel, gd08knk, pas, abs, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, passenger airbag, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, front head restraints, central locking, cloth seat trim, audio remote control, white, 100 miles, £10995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

XSARA, PICASSO SX 16v 5dr, x422bgx, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, aluminium silver, 70000 miles, £2499, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

XSARA, PICASSO SX 16v, ky03dmv, remote central locking, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, child locks, isofix, twin air bags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, rear headrests, seat-back tables, for full details and more stock please visit www.Marshams.co.uk, midnight blue met. 70900 miles, £3999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

XSARA, PICASSO SX 16v, bo51 kgu, air conditioning, power steering, abs, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cd player, radio, twin air bags, green, 74200 miles, £2995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

NEXIA, GLXI, 1997 r, tyres vgc battery, moss grey, 31800 miles, £1000, Kenneth Martin. Rochester, Kent, 01634719334 (PRIVATE)

NEXIA, GLXI, 1997 r, electric sun roof, security alarm, battery six mths vgc tyres all 4, spare as new,taxed, mot, till aug; 2010. full service history, a/c, moss grey, 31800 miles, £1000, Kenneth Martin. 01634719334 (PRIVATE)

LEGANIA, cdx auto, 1998, silver, 80000 miles, £595, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

SIRION, 1.3 SE 5 Door, 10/2006, abs with ebd, remote central locking, radio/cd player, air conditioning, alloy wheels, rear parking sensors, electric windows, metallic coral pink, 6, 000 miles, £7750, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

FIAT

DOBLO, Active Hr, mt06zgd, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, power steering, electric front windows, trip computer, adjustable steering column, rear headrests, automatic electric windows, cloth upholstery, power steering, rear wiper, heated rear window, space saver spare wheel, service interval indicator, air recirculation system, side rubbing strips, height adjustable driver's seat, rear parcel shelf, height adjustable front headrests, driver's seat armrest, body coloured door mirrors, sliding side doors, seatbelt pretensioners with load limiters, 2nd row 60/40 split/fold, 5 x 3 point seatbelts, passenger side oddments compartment with lid on fascia, follow me home headlights, storage compartments under sunvisors, second row windows with sliding rear panel, blue, 13000 miles, £6495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

DOBLO, 1.9 Multijet Dynamic 5dr [120] Diesel Estate, rv58jvf, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, rear headrests, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, service indicator, space saver spare wheel, lumbar support, immobiliser, front armrest, front head restraints, 3x3 point rear seat belts, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, height adjustable drivers seat, beige metallic, 17250 miles, £8990, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DUCAITO, 35 Lwb 120 Multijet Refrigerated Chiller, wp566fg, side load door, dual passenger seat, cd player, air bag, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, grp lined, hubbard fridge, electric standby available if required. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 20000 miles, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 2004, met blue, 50234 miles, £3495, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

STILO, 1.9 JTD Active 5dr [AC] Diesel Multi Wagon, rv05wpo, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, front head restraints, roof rails, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, rear headrests, isofix child seat anchor points, radio/cassette, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, steel grey metallic, 22000 miles, £5295, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.8TDCi Titanium 5dr*****SPORT PACK 3*****, ng08thr, 18 alloys, rain sensing wipers, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking.. insurance group:8, grey, 25693 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.6TDCi Zetec 5dr, ap08nfn, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, adjustable seats, child locks, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, remote locking, side airbags. insurance group:7, grey, 28102 miles, £10500, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

ESCORT, lx, 1998, met green, 61000 miles, £800, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, 350 MWB Hi Roof LPG / Petrol Refrigerated Chiller, en06upv, side load door, high roof, dual passenger seat, radio cassette, air bag, abs, remote central locking, power steering, dual fuel, london congestion zone exempt, grp lined, gah equipment, electric standby available if required. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 38000 miles, £10995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, I-Ctdi Executive, la530wb, immobiliser, remote central locking, full leather, centre armrest, electric seats, head restraints, heated seats, folding rear seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, cruise control, power steering, satellite navigation, stability control, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, electric sunroof, air conditioning, electric windows, electric mirrors, 16" alloys, blue, 97000 miles, £5999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CR-V, I-VTEC SE Sport, si04 kbp, air conditioning, power steering, abs, cd player, radio, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, electric sunroof, twin air bags, alloy wheels, 4x4, grey, 63400 miles, £7495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

JAZZ, Dsi SE 5dr, lt06hde, 15" alloys, black, 16000 miles, £8495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, Si 3dr, y963 mnm, power steering, air bag, sunroof, electric front windows, radio cassette, cloth upholstery, rear wash/wipe, silver, 55100 miles, £1695, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0i SE, y458hkk, remote central locking, immobiliser, full leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, sunroof, cd player, radio, 16" alloys, blue, 57000 miles, £2999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

LANTRA, Gsi, y989hmx, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric windows, aluminium silver, 67000 miles, £1999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

KIA

PICANTO, LX 5dr, rk56wca, abs, air bag, alarm, central locking, remote central locking, air conditioning, electric front windows, electric windows, rear wash/wipe, automatic electric windows, mp3 player, child locks, head restraints, cloth upholstery, isofix, air conditioning, 4 speakers, side impact protection, tachometer, digital clock, front ashtray and cigar lighter, detachable audio security panel, glovebox, 14" steel wheels, security window etching, tilt adjustable steering wheel, full wheel covers, remote fuel flap release, 3 point rear seatbelts x3, load area cover, sunglasses storage, front passenger grab handle, with covers, load area light, front console with cup holder, driver's seatback pocket, body colour radiator grille, instant mobility system, roof mounted aerial, 60/40 split fold rear seat back, 4 speed front ventilation fan, height adjustable front seatbelts + pretensioners, passenger seat side pocket, body colour electric adjustable door mirrors, sliding sunvisors, high level rear brake light, coat hooks, cabin air filter, aluminium silver, 10000 miles, £5995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

LAMBORGHINI

DIABLO, 1998, purple metallic with cream leather, 57000 miles, £59950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 TDi Station Wagon, j38tp, power steering, rear wash/wipe, tow pack, sunroof, 4x4, 7 seater, road tax (plg) is £190 per year. white, 106000 miles, £5995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DISCOVERY, TD5 GS Automatic, y6730ta, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, power steering, traction control, abs, twin air bags, metallic paintwork, tow pack, electric windows, electric mirrors, twin sunroofs, cruise control, side steps, roof rails, headlamp jetwash, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, 4x4, road tax (diesel car) is £215 per year. metallic red, 81000 miles, £7995, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

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MAXUS, Lwb 3.5/95 Refrigerated Chiller / Freezer, bv57hru, dual passenger seat, side load door, cd player, air bag, abs, remote central locking, power steering, immobiliser, electric windows, grp lined. gah fridge, electric standby available if required. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 26000 miles, £9995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

LEXUS

GS, 300 se auto, 2005, silver metallic with grey full leather, 34000 miles, £15950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

IS, 200 SE, av54 bxy, air conditioning, climate control, full leather, parking sensor, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear headrests, electric seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, heated seats, electric windows, electric mirrors, powered folding mirrors, electric sunroof, traction control, radio cassette, multi-disc cd player, twin air bags, curtain airbags, abs, auto lighting, alloy wheels, silver, 20100 miles, £8995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

RX, 300 3.0 se auto, 2004, black metallic with beige leather, 72000 miles, £10950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

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Ref: T1405

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For further information or an application pack please contact the Human Resources Department on 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone), email: humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk

The closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm Monday 2nd November 2009.

All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment. Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.



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For a full job description and application form please download from www.pilgrimshospice.org

Closing date: Wednesday 11 November 2009

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We require a support worker to deliver our group work programmes aimed at 7 – 13 year old children who are affected by someone else's misuse of substances. The groups promote emotional and psychological well-being through structured sessions. The project works closely with Children's Social Services, schools and other children's services.

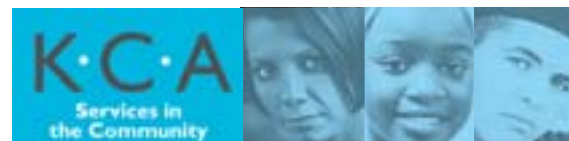
You will need experience of working with children and delivering group work interventions. Ideally you will also have a sound knowledge of substance misuse issues.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 611.

Closing date: 30 October 2009. Interview date: 10 November 2009.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

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MORE MEDALS: Jamie Staff increased his career medal tally with another gold at the National Championships

CYCLING

Staff starts new season with gold

OLYMPIC track cycling champion Jamie Staff kicked off the new season in style by winning the National Team Sprint title in Manchester.

The Ashford cyclist joined up with four-time Olympic champion Chris Hoy and Ross Edgar to compete for Team Sky at the British Championships on Friday.

Despite the summer break, the 36-year-old showed no signs of a drop in form, as he helped the team breeze through the qualifying round.

Staff, who holds the fastest opening lap in Team Sprint history, helped the team set a competitive time of 44.255 seconds which was three seconds faster than their rivals Team SIS.

The Olympic champion and the rest of the Team Sky squad faced North West Region A in the final and it proved to be a close contest.

However, Staff's team went even faster in the final by setting a time of 43.759 seconds to clinch gold. North West Region A crossed the finish line in 45.170 seconds.

Staff is expected to be involved in the first Track Cycling World Cup meeting of the season, also to be held at the Manchester Velodrome this weekend.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT
glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



ON THE RISE: Joe Lakin (left) scored one of Ashford's three tries en-route to a comfortable win against HSBC, which earned the club their first back-to-back league victories of the season

Fast start helps as Ashford put another win in the bank

RUGBY

■ BY TOM HOWARD

Ashford 23 HSBC 5

A CONVINCING attacking display helped Ashford move up to fifth in Kent 1 after recording back-to-back league wins for the first time this season.

Ashford started the game well and scored

early on with a try from Brian Cowie. The winger collected a cross field kick by JJ Murray and he scored in the corner.

The home side dominated the game and further tries from Callum Stuckey and Joe Lakin wrapped up the win. The result has pushed Ashford into fifth and they are just a point from third position.

They now turn their attention away from Kent 1 this Saturday when they take on Battersea in the second round of the RFU Junior Vase.

First-team coach Dai Fussell is under no illusions the game will be a tough challenge, despite Battersea struggling in the bottom half of Surrey 1.

He said: "Battersea in the cup this weekend

is a different challenge, and there are obviously some very strong sides left in the cup at this stage. However, Battersea have only won one league game all season, and may be a cup side.

"Our youngsters are full of confidence and are really starting to come together as a side and I will remain loyal to those players who remain loyal to me. We have a mostly fully-fit squad to select from, and these young players love a challenge.

"I'm sure most people would agree that this season, most sides we play, we are going in as the underdogs and we have nothing to lose. Our players will thrive on that feeling. If the underdog wants a game bad enough, they can go and get it."

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Nuts & Bolts tightened form in second-half rally

FOOTBALL

BY YOURASHFORD REPORTER

Ashford Town 2

Ashmore 72, Fuller 79

Dulwich Hamlet 2

Ming 3, Pinnock 5

LATE strikes from Joe Fuller and Toby Ashmore helped Ashford Town come back from two goals down to earn a valuable point at Homelands.

New signing Seb Barton was handed the number one jersey after rejoining the club last week. He was called into action from the start of the game, as Dulwich came out of the blocks quickly.

The visitors opened the scoring with just three minutes on the clock. A free-kick from 25-yards skidded through the penalty area before finding Sanchez Ming, who slammed the ball into the net.

Things were made worse for slow-starting Ashford as they found themselves two behind on five minutes. Ryan James fed Sol Pinnock in the area and he slotted the ball past Barton.

Ashford struggled to get a foothold in the game and it took until the 26th minute for their first effort. Ronnie Dolan started and



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

EQUALISER: Joe Fuller scored Ashford Town's all-important second goal which earned them a share of the points

ended the move, but he could only send his shot wide. It proved to be Town's only chance of the half.

Mark Lovell was introduced at the start of the second-half and the change seemed to work, as Ashford grew in confidence. Lovell caused the Dulwich defence a number of prob-

Ashford Town starting XI



Subs used: Lovell (Norman 46)

lems and goalkeeper Phil Wilson was called upon to make a string of saves.

Barton showed his class on 70 minutes as he prevented Dulwich from scoring a third goal with an impressive double save.

It proved to be the turning point of the game as two minutes later Ashford pulled a goal back through Ashmore. Steve Springett, on loan from Ebbsfleet United, floated a corner into the area, which was met by Ashmore and the ball flew into the net.

The Nuts & Bolts pushed forward and on 79 minutes they scored an equaliser from the in-form Joe Fuller. Once again a Springett cross eluded the Dulwich defence and Fuller out-jumped the Dulwich goalkeeper to head the ball into the net.

Town had the chance to win the game late on, but Lovell's run and shot was saved by Wilson.

Ashford were back in Ryman League action last night against Horsham YMCA. Log on to www.yourashford.co.uk for a full report.

LEAGUE TABLE

RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Folkestone Invicta	11	7	3	1	+8	24
2 Fleet Town	12	7	2	3	+13	23
3 Merstham	13	7	2	4	+5	23
4 Godalming Town	11	7	1	3	+8	22
5 Worthing	11	7	0	4	+9	21
6 Croydon Athletic	10	5	4	1	+16	19
7 Chatham Town	11	5	2	4	0	17
8 Burgess Hill Town	11	5	1	5	0	16
9 Leatherhead	10	4	3	3	+3	15
10 Corinthian-Casuals	11	4	3	4	+2	15
11 Ramsgate	12	4	3	5	+2	15
12 Walton & Hersham	9	4	3	2	+2	15
13 Dulwich Hamlet	12	3	6	3	+1	15
14 Metropolitan Police	11	3	5	3	+2	14
15 Sittingbourne	9	3	4	2	+1	13
16 Whyteleafe	11	4	0	7	0	12
17 Walton Casuals	10	2	4	4	-3	10
18 Ashford Town	11	2	3	6	-20	9
19 Eastbourne Town	11	1	5	5	-7	8
20 Horsham YMCA	10	1	4	5	-10	7
21 Chipstead	11	1	4	6	-13	7
22 Whitstable Town	10	2	0	8	-19	6

FIXTURES (Tuesday, November 3): Ryman Division

One South: Walton & Hersham v **Ashford Town**



ON TRACK: Leon Camier hopes he's done enough to earn a ride in the World Superbike Championship next season

Camier hopes performance in Portugal earns a Worlds spot

SUPERBIKES

LEON Camier helped his chances of securing a deal to move to the World Superbike Championship with two strong points finishes in the final round at Portimau, Portugal.

The 23-year-old, who was on trial with the Aprilia works team, headed into the final round of the World Superbike season hoping to impress the team owners as they look for drivers to lead their charge next season.

However, the newly crowned British Superbike champion was disappointing in qualifying, only managing to post a time good enough for 13th on the grid.

In race one, Camier made an aggressive start and moved into the top-ten in the opening laps. He continued to move up the field and managed to keep in touch with the lead group, but was unable to keep his charge going and crossed the finish line in a credible sixth place.

A slower opening stint in the second race cost Camier time and places and he was

forced to play catch up early on. At the halfway point he recovered and after a long battle with Australian Troy Corser, he finished the race in seventh place.

Camier told Britishsuperbike.com: "It has been a good weekend for me and I was giving it everything out there. In the first race I had a good start, which makes a change and was really aggressive in the first few laps to try and stay near the leaders.

"I was happy with sixth and to keep some of the regular World championship riders behind me was just awesome. In race two I was less aggressive in the opening laps and it cost me a bit, but seventh place was another good finish."

Camier will hope his performance will be enough to warrant a ride in the World Superbike Championship for 2010.

GOLF



BACK TO SCHOOL: Benn Barham missed the chance to secure his spot on the European Tour

Barham to go back to school as he loses his European card

BENN Barham will be heading back to European Tour Qualifying School as he failed to secure a top-ten finish at the Castello Masters in Spain.

The Ashford golfer went into the Castello Masters knowing he needed to finish in the top-ten to secure his card for next season. Barham made a promising start to the event with a three-under-par opening round of 68. It could have been an even better start for the 33-year-old, but for a bogey on the fifth. However, his score left him in tied 17th position at the end of day one.

The Chart Hills golfer surged into the top-ten following a stunning five-under-par second round. He made three birdies on the front nine and three birdies and a bogey on the back nine. The score easily saw him make the cut and he finished the day in tied ninth position.

His progress was halted following a double bogey at the fifth. He recovered by making two birdies on the back nine, but his one-under-par 70 saw him slide to tied 11th position.

The final round needed a strong performance to earn a place in the top 115 in the order of merit, but four birdies and four bogeys in a turbulent final 18 holes sealed his fate and he finished in tied 25th position.

The result saw the Ashford golfer move up to 129th in the order of merit rankings and he was just 32,000 euros adrift of 115th place.

After four consecutive seasons on the tour, Barham will now have to earn his card for next season by coming through qualifying school, which begins next month in Spain.

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New Formula One World champion
Jenson Button's visit to Bluewater

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ts are found at most hospitals.
being very ill or are badly injured,
rator that there is a medical
e sent to your location.

When and Why?

Emergency services are very busy. They should only be used in very serious or life-threatening situations.

Choosing well ensures that essential treatment is given, in the shortest possible time

Walk-in centres

Walk-in centres are located across eastern Kent for minor injuries and give you health advice. They are open until late in the evening. You will be seen by an experienced nurse.

When and Why?

Use your local minor injuries unit or walk-in centre if you need medical treatment or advice which does not need a visit to A&E or a medical appointment.

Choosing well ensures you receive the best possible treatment, leaving emergency services to those who need them most.

For details of your local minor injuries unit or walk-in centre call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

GP surgeries are located across eastern and coastal Kent. Make an appointment with a GP surgery for medical problems. You can visit your home outside of opening hours. Follow the recorded message at your local surgery and follow the recorded message.

When and Why?

Make an appointment with your local GP surgery when you have an illness or injury that will not go away this winter.

Choosing well ensures that you get the treatment you need, and reduces the demand on emergency services.

For details of your nearest GP surgery call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

Pharmacies are located across eastern and coastal Kent. Visit your local pharmacy for advice on common winter illnesses and the treatment you need.

When and Why?

Visit your local pharmacy when you are suffering from a common winter health problem which does not require being seen by a nurse or doctor.

Choosing well ensures you get the treatment you need in the shortest possible time, reducing the pressure on essential NHS services.

For details of your nearest pharmacy call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

Get expert advice and information by telephone, on the NHS Direct line, 24 hours a day. You can also visit **www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk** or use the NHS Direct app on Sky Digital's interactive service.

When and Why?

Contact NHS Direct if you are ill and have any questions about health. The service can also help you to find health services in your local area.

Choosing well ensures you get expert advice in the shortest possible time, meaning busy NHS services can help those who need them most.

Self-care is the best choice to treat very minor illnesses and injuries. You can get advice on self care from the NHS Direct app or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

When and Why?

Self-care is the best choice to treat very minor illnesses and injuries.

Choosing well ensures you receive the rest and recovery you need, meaning busy NHS services can help those who need them most. For advice on self care call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

Why choose well?

During winter, more people get ill or are injured than at other times of the year.

This means that the services provided by the National Health Service (NHS) are needed more than ever.

This information will help you decide if you need medical attention if you get sick. It explains what each NHS service does, and when it should be used.

Choosing well means you will get the best treatment this winter. It also allows busy NHS services to help the people who need them most.

Useful information

There are some easy ways you can lower your risk of getting ill this winter:

- When you cough or sneeze use a tissue, and then put it in the bin and wash your hands.
- Stay warm by making sure your home is heated, and by wearing lots of layers of clothing.
- Have many hot meals and drinks to keep your temperature and strength up.
- If you smoke, consider quitting to improve your circulation and general health. In case you do get ill, it is good to be prepared with essential medicines:
 - Paracetamol or aspirin.
 - Anti-diarrhoeal medicine.
 - Oral rehydration mixture.
 - Indigestion remedy.
 - Plasters.
 - A thermometer.

Remember, if you need any extra advice contact NHS Direct:

0845 4647

www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

FREEVIEW channel 108, or page two on Sky Digital's interactive service.